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Section C

The Romulus Roman

THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF ROMULUS

August 15, 2002 | Vol. 115, Number 33 | 3 Sections, 28 Pages | 75¢

Despite PD cutbacks, new public safety dept created

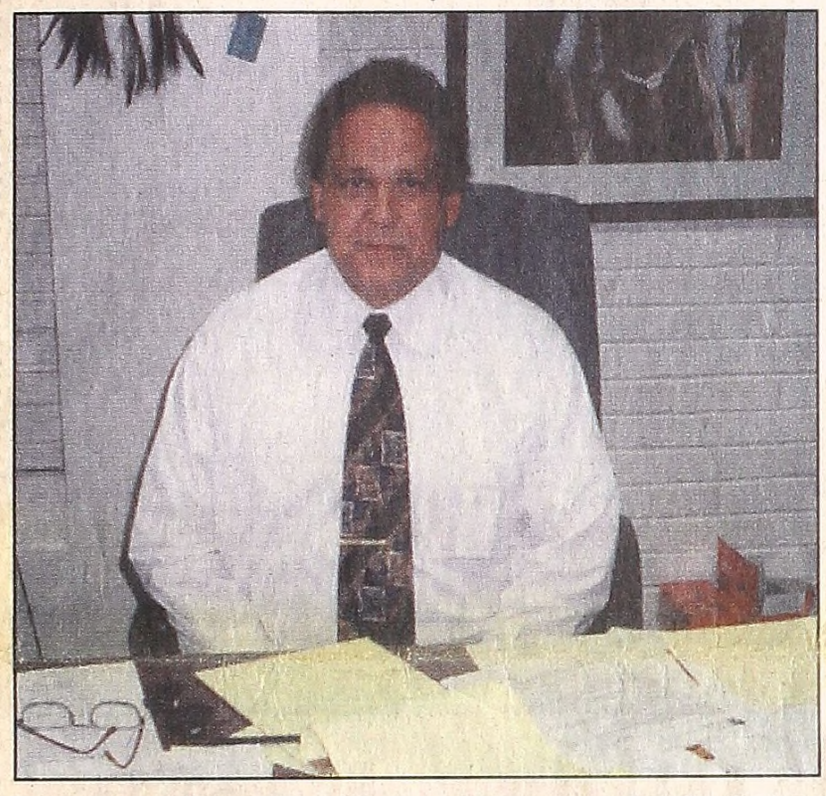
By BRENDA GRACIN
MCN Staff Writer

Despite major cutbacks in the Romulus Police Department, Mayor Alan Lambert has established a new department at City Hall.

The Department of Public Safety will manage the Romulus Police Department and the city's fire department. Appointed to become the new department's director, Chief Charles Kirby of the Romulus PD. Kirby will remain as Chief of Police, however, he will not oversee the day-to-day operations of the department. That job will fall to Sgt. Gerald Champagne, who will be promoted to Deputy Chief. A position newly established to permit Kirby to operate in his new capacity.

> *"Our officers are busy overseeing the safety of the community, cutting them and hiring additional firefighters who may not be used doesn't make sense."*

Kirby, who has been with the Romulus PD for 7 years, appointed by Mayor Oakley, came to Romulus from Ypsilanti Township. He has 33 years of law enforcement experience. Mayor Lambert in an earlier article explaining his executive retirement package believed that officers with 25 years of service were burned out and ready for retirement, Kirby at 33 years is ready to continue serving the community in his new position.



Romulus police chief Charles Kirby, new Public Safety Director.

Lambert hopes to open additional fire stations in the city. He plans to look at the hotel district, believing that TIFA money could be used to build a station there. Cuts in the police department, according to Lambert and Kirby, will supply funds needed to provide additional staffing to man the new stations. Chief critics of the plan, including a local judge, believe that cutting officers from the department is a mistake. "I can't see how they are thinking," said Judge Brian Oakley. "Our officers are busy overseeing the safety of the community, cutting them and hiring additional firefighters who may not be used doesn't make sense."

Oakley who serves as a 34th District Judge has the opportunity to work with the officers on a daily basis as cases being investigated by the Romulus PD come before him.

As new Public Safety Director, Kirby will work with Lambert and the city council to bring new fire services to the residents. He will be in charge of all operations concerning both police and fire services. His salary as the new director will be $12,000 more than he currently makes as Chief of Police. Upon requesting his current salary, this paper was directed to the personnel department to gain that information. When we receive it, we will post an update.

Kirby will serve in the new position until the Mayor directs otherwise. Department heads also serve at the direction of the council under current city charter ordinances. Kirby plans to act upon the Mayor's instructions to implement a mixed full time/paid on call fire service for the Romulus Community. "I plan on maintaining effective and efficient quality police service to the community. Improvements will continue as we move forward," said Kirby.

The new 23,600 square foot swimming pool complex is attached to the southwest corner of the Sr. High School. The entrance is an extension of the gymnasium atrium. The "State-of-the-art" facility is scheduled to open early this fall.

Tossed brick could cost Romulus man 20 years

Hudson bound over on felonious assault charges

By BRENDA GRACIN
MCN Staff Writer

Judge William Szlinis of the 34th District Court, found fact to bind over Dwight Hudson on assault with intent to do bodily harm, a felony punishable by up to 20 years.

Hudson, age 21, had been arrested by Sgt. Jeffrey Keefer of the Romulus Police Department after being identified by Romulus resident Silviu Majeri, age 57, as the man who assaulted him on April 8.

According to testimony, Hudson had used Majeri's yard as a way to cut through to other areas of the neighborhood. Majeri told prosecutor Maria Petito that individuals passing through had used his yard for months. His wife had told him on several occasions about trespassers. On the date in question, Majeri happened to be at home when Hudson entered his yard to jump the fence.

Approaching Hudson, Majeri asked him to leave the yard. Hudson refused. "I told him to turn around, and not go through my yard," said Majeri. According to Majeri, Hudson then told him he was not going to turn back, and he would continue to go through the yard as often as he wanted to.A verbal confrontation then took place, with both men yelling and swearing at each other. At one point, after Hudson threatened the man physically, Majeri considered picking up a shovel that was leaning against his garage, but did not get an opportunity to do so before Hudson jumped the fence into the next yard.

> *"I told him to turn around, and not go through my yard"*
>
> **Silviu Majeri**

At that point, Majeri decided not to pursue Hudson, and turned to go back into his house. Just as he passed the corner of his garage, he was hit in the back of the head. Turning around, he saw Hudson standing in the yard behind his home. He lost consciousness for a moment, and dropped to ground. His wife ran into the back yard trying to apply towels to stop the bleeding. Majeri was taken to the hospital where he received 14 stitches to close the wound.

A witness for the prosecution, Mitch Sandusky, a friend of Dwight Hudson's, offered testimony which related a conversation he had with Dwight a few days after the alleged incident. Both men were present at the house of Edward Turner in Romulus. "He said he got into an argument jumping a fence, and he was joking about it," said Sandusky. "He was making fun of the man, holding his head," Sandusky testified.

Petito questioned Sandusky on what Hudson had revealed about throwing an object to hit Majeri in the head, at which time he told the court that Hudson had said he saw the man's head split wide open and start to bleed. "He said I just hit the mother with a brick," said Sandusky.

Petito asked whether he had noticed any injuries on Hudson. Sandusky said he saw nothing to indicate an injury.

Another witness, Imran Haq, who had earlier given a statement to Keefer on the incident, recanted that statement when subpoenaed by the court. The young man's father had made a call to the Wayne County Prosecutor's office to tell them that he believed his son had been threatened by the defendant's brother, and was told that if he testified he would be harmed in some way. Under threat of perjury charges, the young man refused to confirm an earlier witness statement. The earlier statement had been made to Keefer in the presence of the young man's father. The prosecutor's office may seek charges of perjury against the witness who recanted his testimony.

Petito asked that Hudson be bound over on the charges as filed. Defense attorney Samuel Simon asked Szlinis to consider a misdemeanor charge due to self-defense. Szlinis denied defense request and bound Hudson over on charges as filed by the Wayne County Prosecutor's office. He will stand trial in the Wayne County Courts.

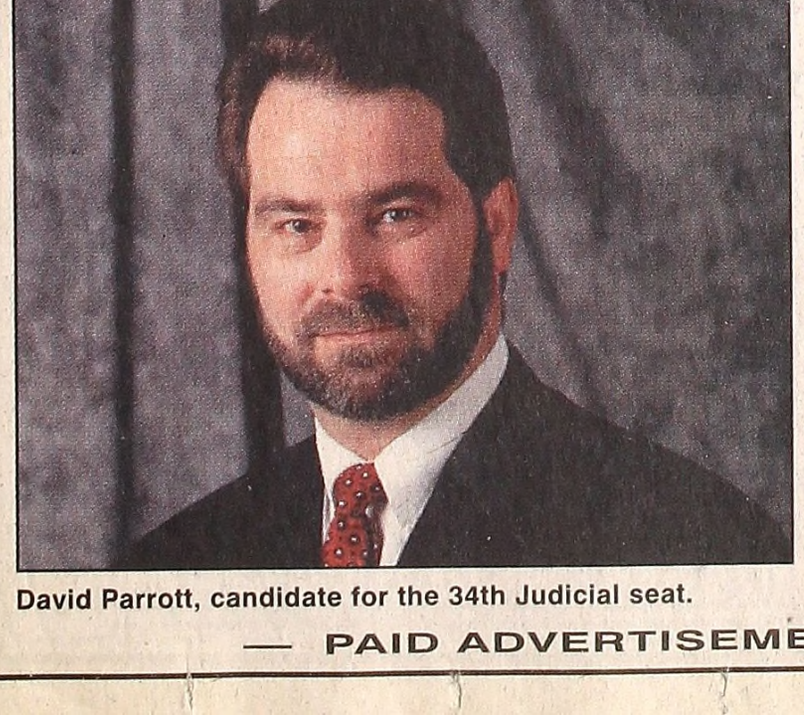
Parrott to vie for 34th district court seat

On August 6, voters in the 34th District Court community selected David Parrott as one of two candidates who will vie for the Judgeship in the November general elections. Honored that residents have given him the opportunity to move forward, Parrott is reaching out to voters to thank them for their time and interest in his campaign.

"First of all, I would like to thank not only those who voted for me, but all those who took the time to vote. Voting is not only a right, but also a responsibility–it's what makes this country great and shouldn't be taken for granted. I would also like to thank my friends who volunteered to help before and during the election–without them I wouldn't have made it through the primary. I would especially like to thank my fiancée, Lianne Clair, and my treasurer, Jack Trumble, for their tireless efforts on my behalf," said Parrott.

Parrott has spoken with the other candidates in the primary and expressed his respect and admiration for each of them. "I consider myself fortunate to have had the opportunity to be included in such a fine group of individuals," said Parrott. Steven Trahey and George Chedraue, both of who were candidates on the August Primary ballot have indicated that they will be supporting him in the general election. "Jeff Jahr and I will be sitting down to discuss matters in the next week or so," said Parrott. He believes that although he had a great deal of support in the primary, his campaign is gaining momentum and that even greater support will be expressed in the coming weeks.

Parrott's campaign believes the residents of the 34th District will have a clear choice in November. "I am the only candidate that has been rated as qualified by the Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association, and I have been practicing law longer than my opponent," said Parrott in an interview with this paper. During his almost 17 years of experience, he has tried cases in both district and circuit court, pursued appeals in both the Court of Appeals and the Michigan Supreme Court, served as an arbitrator and prosecuted cases in district court on behalf of the city attorney. He has drafted legislation enacted in Lansing and ordinances adopted by municipalities. Parrott has defended individuals and companies in district courts throughout southeastern Michigan. "In particular, I am no stranger to the 34th District Court, having defended civil infractions there. I also have extensive civil experience handling sophisticated legal matters involving the protection of our seniors' hard-earned pensions," said Parrott.



David Parrott, candidate for the 34th Judicial seat.

He believes strongly that by participating in civic activities, one can get a sense of the community. He has served on Van Buren Township Water and Sewer Commission for nine years. As an active member of such organizations as the Belleville Area Council for the Arts, Belleville Area Historical Society, Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce, Citizens Helping Improve Public Safety, Huron Valley Conservation Association, Belleville Moose and Van Buren Eagles, Parrott feels his community involvement has put me him touch with what justice means to the people of the 34th District and what they expect from their district court judges. "I can bring my history of community involvement and the energy that takes to the bench with me. Also, since the 34th District Court already has judges from Romulus and Huron Township, I can bring diversity to the court by representing the viewpoint of the tri-community area," he said.

Parrott's judicial philosophy focuses on fairness, compassion and understanding. "All people appearing before a judge should be treated with respect. The district court handles minor offenses and more serious offenses are referred to circuit court. People make mistakes and one mistake shouldn't ruin your life. I believe that we shouldn't automatically be locking up people for the kinds of minor offenses that go to district court, but that a district court judge should be exploring creative, effective sentencing alternatives to keep people out of our already overcrowded jails. On the other hand, if you don't learn from your mistakes, you should expect to face the consequences, including jail time," he said. Parrott believes the focus should be on learning and education, especially among young people. He would like to see more programs where the court reaches out to the schools and becomes more involved in teaching kids about the law and the role of the court.

"If you have any questions, please contact me at (734) 697-4229 or Parrottt4judge@aol.com. Thank you for your consideration and remember to vote on November 5, 2002."

— PAID ADVERTISEMENT —

School board rolls back taxes

The Romulus Board of Education kept a promise to Romulus citizens to lower the homestead tax by 2 mills if the August 6th Wayne County Special Education Millage passed countywide. Since the County millage passed 171,574 to 147,732, the Board of Education voted 7 - 0 at the August 12th Board meeting to lower the homestead tax by 2 mills for the upcoming winter tax collection.

Superintendent Joel R. Carr was pleased to be able to keep this promise. Carr explained that, "we are happy to return the previous extra fees the district had to pay for special education center programs to our Romulus residents." The 2 mill reduction, when balanced against the 1.5 mill WCRESA increase, will save the average Romulus homeowner between $25 and $50 per year.

Boy shoots himself after finding gun

Tossed handgun nearly costs 5 year old his life

By BRENDA GRACIN
MCN Staff Writer

A handgun tossed into the dumpster at a Romulus apartment complex by Metro Airport nearly cost a 5 year old Romulus boy his life last Wednesday.

Living with his family at the Sky Harbor Apartments on Streamway, the child, name withheld due to minor status, apparently went outside to play around 11:30 a.m. Wandering near dumpsters that are situated throughout the complex, the boy found a handgun that had been tossed into the garbage.

After finding the gun, the boy took the gun inside the unit where he lived with his mother. Going upstairs, with his mother and uncle downstairs, curiosity got the better of the boy, and he began to play with the gun. With the weapon turned near his face, at some point the gun discharged. According to police and hospital reports, the bullet entered just below the boy's lip and exited behind his ear, glancing off of his jaw to miss his brain.

Hearing the shot, the mother went upstairs to find her son lying on the floor bleeding profusely. Applying towels to his wounds, she rushed the child to Annapolis Hospital where he was then airlifted to the University of Michigan. A neighbor, Twylet Frison drove the mother and child to the hospital following the accident. "She's very hurt and shocked, it is so sad," said Frison.

Witnesses described the mother as being hysterical. "There was a lot of blood," said one person who saw the mother holding the towels over the child's head to try and stop the bleeding. "They are all pretty upset over there." Other neighbors told the press about the mother's devotion to the child and her struggle to obtain an education so she could move him from the complex.

Listing the child in serious condition, hospital authorities now have updated the boy's condition to fair.

Sgt. Jeffrey Keefer of the Romulus Police Department is investigating the incident. Police are checking information and records to determine whether a suspect they were pursuing through the Sky Harbor complex on Tuesday evening could have tossed the gun.

"When we were contacted about the incident, right away I'm telling myself that this isn't going to pretty. A five-year-old child that has been shot in the face. I thought the worst," said Keefer. Keefer went to the hospital to check on the status of the child and get details from witnesses. Upon arriving he found the child being wheeled into trauma. "I was sincerely amazed that it wasn't worse," said Keefer.

The child is the 24th youth to have been shot in the Detroit Metro area in the past year. A report by the Detroit News indicates that 10 other children in the same age range have been killed by gunshots.

Keefer is asking that anyone who may have information about the gun, contact him at the Romulus PD at 941-8400.

NEWS FROM THE CITY OF INKSTER

Victory celebration

In the wake of his overwhelming victory over an incumbent Democrat Lynn Rivers, Congressman John Dingell (standing, at right) celebrated with his supporters in Inkster. The Democratic Party's nominee, who has served in Congress for nearly half of a century, was accompanied to the Booker T. Dozier Recreation Center by Jesse Jackson, Jr., of Chicago (seen above shaking hands with a local voter.) Congressman Dingell will meet his Republican challenger in the November general election. Photo by Theola Jones

1000 men prepare to march for unity in Inkster

It is for a cause that all men are invited to participate in. It is a cause for unity.

The Men's Day Committee of Amity Baptist Church in Inkster is holding its annual "1000 Men March in Unity" walk-a-thon in celebration of Men's Day.

The walk-a-thon will begin at 10 a.m. and is scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 17.

Program sponsors say that the march will start from Baylor-Woodson School, east on Carlysle Avenue, to Amity Church, located on Carlysle, two blocks, east on Inkster Road..

"We are inviting all the members of our church and community to join us in our 1,000 Men Marching for Unity", church officials said. "It is an event that will help keep our community focused on the important things in life - in God, in their church and family."

After the march, the men will take part in games, have fun and enjoy delicious food.

Also, on Sunday, Aug., 18, the Men's Day Committee at Amity Baptist Church, will celebrate its "Annual Men's Day."

This year's theme is "Men Working Together In Unity."

Sunday School will begin at 9:30 a.m. and Worship Services start at 11 a.m. The Devotional Service begins at 10:30 a.m. .Amity Baptist Church is located 27075 Carlysle. For further information, contact the church offices at 313-278-4430.

In an unrelated but also church announcement, Middlebelt Baptist Church officials remind those who are in need of clothing that the church will be distributing free women, children and men's clothing beginning at 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. on Sat., Aug. 10, at the church.

Ballroom dancers, invited to attend class

If you love ballroom dancing, and if you want to learn how to glide across the dance floor with the greatest of ease, you are in for a treat.

And the first lesson is for free.

To get you off on the right foot, a free ballroom dance class is offered by the very talented instructor Calvin "Mr. Smooth" Sibert.

Sibert, a well-known and gregarious instructor is again offering ballroom dance instructions to local residents.

The class will be held on Sunday, Aug. 25, at the Booker T. Dozier Recreation Complex, located on Middlebelt Road, quarter of a mile north of Michigan Avenue.

The class will begin at 4 p.m., and Silbert urges those who wish to participate to "come prepared to dance". Ballroom dancing has increased in popularity over the years.

According to the students who have completed the entire course, if you attend one session you will return again and again.

The first lesson is free, there will be a small charge for the others.

So bring your family and friends and dance the summer away.

Noted educator retires

ByTHEOLA JONES
MCN Special Writer

Gertrude Francois Warren, the wife of Rev. Minor Warren of Inkster, retired recently after an illustrious teaching career that spanned 53 years.

A retirement celebration was held in Warren's honor at the Marriott Hotel in Ypsilanti. Over 150 family members, friends and colleagues attended the gala event to pay tribute to an outstanding educator.

Allen C. Francois, grandson of the honoree and a student of law at Emory Law School, was the Master of Cer emony. He is presently serving as the Campaign Manager of the Ypsilanti-Ann Arbor-Inkster areas for Congressman John Dingell.

Dingell won the primary and will advance to the general election in November to face the Republican Party's challenger.

The honored guest began her impressive teaching career in Ypsilanti. She received a Bachelor of Arts and a Master's Degree in Education from Eastern Michigan University.

Because of her dedication, and her seemingly innate ability to touch and impact the lives of countless students, June 1 of each year has been dedicated as "Gertrude Francois Warrren Day"' in the city of Ypsilanti.

Program activities for the event included showing slides that depict Warren's remarkable life. There were also many resolutions, plaques, commendations and certificates presented to her, including a plaque from Wayne County Commissioner Ron Peterson. during the retirement ceremony.

Dr. Rose Gibson, of New York, the sister of the honoree, and her nephew, Dr. Ralph Gibson, of Warren, gave remarks on behalf of the family.

Congratulatory messages were received from United States Senator Carl Levin, State Representative James Plakas, State Senator Alma Wheeler Smith, Wayne County Commission Chairman Ricardo Solomon, Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick, Mayor Cheryl Farmer of Ypsilanti and Kenneth Burnley, Superintendent of Detroit Public Schools.

Known for her graciousness, the honoree stated: "I am so delighted that so many of my friends and family came out to share part of their precious day with me. Thank you for thinking of me in such a special way."

Both of her children, Valsine Battle of Baltimore, Maryland, and Herbert Francios, Jr., of Ypsilanti, are educators. Continuing the tradition, Warren's granddaughter, Ramona Edie, is the fifth generation of teachers in the family.

Warren retired from Cooley High School in Detroit where she was the Vocation Assessor. Her principal, Carolyn Parnell, stated that Warren was a valuable and dedicated staff member.

Congratulations and best wishes, Mrs. Warren. May you enjoy your retirement.

Gertrude Warren

The Wayne Eagle
(USPS #0310-610)

Published every Thursday by Michigan Community Newspapers, LLC, a Michigan Corporation, 35518 Park Street, P.O. Box 578, Wayne, MI 48184.

Periodical Postage Paid at Westland, MI.

Home Delivery Rates $3.75 - Thursday
Single Copy Rates Newsstand 75¢ per copy

Mail Subscription Rates Effective Jan. 1, 2001 (Payable in advance)

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24 months	$67.00	24 months	$70.00

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The Inkster Ledger Star
(USPS #0374-610)

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Metro Airport Authority a go

Feds approve authority set up by the governor

By BRENDA GRACIN
MCN Staff Writer

A deal hammered out by Wayne County Executive Edward McNamara and Governor John Engler to appoint an authority to run Detroit Metropolitan Airport has been approved by the Federal Aviation Administration last Wednesday.

The Feds have given the green light to the newly appointed authority to begin their operations. Wayne Doran, authority chairman believes they will be up and operating within two weeks.

Opposed by the Wayne County Commission, it is expected that an appeal to the National Transportation Safety Board.

The authority was put in place after a two-year probe of airport contracting bidding processes. McNamara and Engler believe the authority will be able to reduce cronyism, and allow the airport to be run in a more business like manner. The agreement between McNamara and Engler effectively ended the probe. Signed into law in March, the authority was established but has yet to operate due to lawsuits filed against McNamara, Engler and other parties involved.

One day after the FAA gave the go ahead, the authority met at the Marriott Hotel at the airport to begin the process of management. However, the Wayne County Commission filed for an injunction with the Michigan Court of Appeals to keep the authority from taking over operations. In response, the authority asked Engler for a hearing before the Michigan Supreme Court.

The Wayne County Commission will get one appointment to the new authority, when and if lawsuits and injunctions are finally settled. County Commissioner John Sullivan doesn't believe the county did a very good job of running the airport, but thinks the authority is a step backward rather than a solution. "This takes us back to the times of when an authority used to run the airports which was filled with problems and corruption. I do not think that it is a good thing to allow things to be run the way they were being run to take away the oversight of the Wayne County Commission which was finding problems and insisting on changes," said Sullivan.

On Thursday, Thomas Naughton, former Director of the Wayne County Department of Management and Budget, was named the authority's chief financial officer. Lester Robinson will be the Chief Executive Officer.

RHS student Amanda Brewington (2nd from left) won the $500 1st prize in a special drawing from all the "Students of the Month" winners during the 2001-2002 school year. Also pictured are Don Foley, Assistant Principal and "Student of the Month" Administrator Eleanore Wilmott, Foley's Secretary & Dog Hoffman, Assistant Principal.

Board of Education honors retiring members

The Romulus Board of Education recently presented retiring Board members

Debbie Dick and Kenneth Berlinn with commemorative plaques citing their positive influence on the education of Romulus children.

Both former Board President Dick and Berlinn were greeted with much applause and appreciation for their countless hours of dedication to district functions such as concerts, recognition ceremonies, school programs, athletic events, graduations, charity drives and community programs. They also both served the Board in the offices of president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer.

Former President Dick was commended for her extensive involvement with the Wick Parent Supporter and the Athletic Booster organizations. She was also on Board committees in the fields of finance, athletic facilities, policy and cable television and was an enthusiastic supporter of the district's "FISH" Program. She was additionally recognized for her strong advocacy of the district initiatives, district academic achievements, the band program and the district wide athletic program where she led continual efforts to improve both our athletic facilities and the quality of our athletic teams.

Berlinn was commended for a variety of accomplishments during his 20 years of Board service. He was a long time member of the Board finance, personnel and technology committees. He also represented Romulus on the Wayne County Association of School Boards Executive Committee, the Michigan Association of School Boards Legislative Relations Network and as an elected Board member to the Wayne County RESA Board of Education. Berlinn made numerous presentations at regional, statewide and national education conferences and distinguished himself and the Romulus Community School District in the process.

The Romulus Educational community extends its best wishes and sincere thanks and gratitude to Debbie Dick and Kenneth Berlinn for their contributions to the Romulus Community School District and to the children of Romulus.

Retiring Board of Education. Members Ken Berlinn and Debbie Dick proudly display the plaques Romulus presented to them by the Board of Education.

Bond program summer improvements

The 1999 $34 million bond program continued to provide many school system improvements over this past summer. The main project has been the completion of the new 23,600 square foot district swimming complex located at the Sr. High School. However, many more improvements have also been under way.

These include:

- Sr. High auditorium refurbishing.
- Middle School gymnasium restoration.
- Security cameras at all schools.
- A new high tech engineering lab at the Sr. High.
- New windows for Barth, Halecreek and Wick Elementary Schools. New windows and exterior doors for the Middle School.
- Extensive new window and exterior door systems for the Burton Center.
- A new electrical system, classroom vents and new plumbing fixtures for Mt. Pleasant School.
- A new boiler and classroom lights for Merriman Elementary.
- A new visible friendly scoreboard for the football field.
- New Sr. High Band instruments.
- New bus garage fuel pumps.
- Demolition of the old bus garage storage building and start of co-structionon a new storage addition.
- Bids accepted for the construction of a maintenance area storage building.

Director of Business and Finance Bill Routhier noted that, "we have had a very busy summer and that a most of these projects will be completed in a timely fashion." Superintendent Joel R. Carr was enthusiastic about all these district improvements and said that, "the 1999 bond issue whas been one of the most exciting programs in the history of the Romulus Community Schools." Carr concluded that, "Romulus residents can truly be proud of our school district and that our facilities are among the best in the nation."

ROMULUS COMMUNITY HIGH

— A GOOD ALTERNATIVE —

School of Choice

Community High. Community High is a program for students 16-19 years of age who are seeking an alternative to the traditional high school setting. Most classes are held at the Mt. Pleasant Center in Romulus from 10:00 a.m. - 4:40 p.m., Monday through Friday.

What makes Community High unique?

— Small class sizes that meet in two-hour blocks
— An emplasis on applied academics, career connections, and technical/vocational training.
— Trained counselors conduct individual and group personal development sessions.
— Job, college, and military opportunities are explored with students.
— Teaching and support staff are focused on providing academic success and healthy personal growth to each student at Community High School.
— Computer technology is integrated into each academic area.
— Students have the opportunity to earn credit for work experience, community service, and successful passing of the Stanford Achievement Test.
— Students have the ability to earn credits for each nine-week quarter they complete with a 70% compentency in each class.

— Fall Enrollment August 12 - September 3rd

— First semester classes begin August 28th

— For information or to make an appointment to register for classes, please call 734-532-1950 and ask for the Community High.

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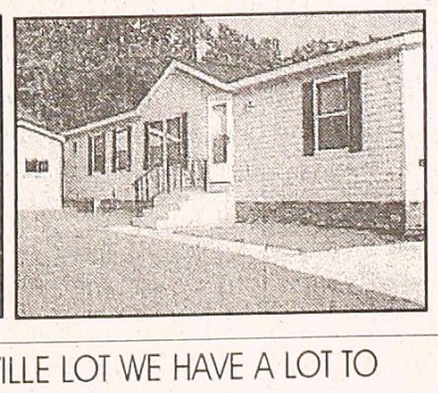

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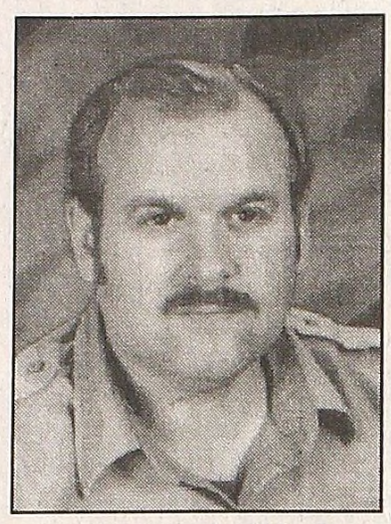
NEWS FROM THE CITY OF WAYNE

Window on Wayne

By RICHARD L. STORY
Wayne Historian



Richard L. Story

For many fleeing slavery during the 1850's, the road to freedom was through Wayne.

The Underground Railroad provided the passage for more than 40,000 to 50,000 slaves who reached Canada via Wayne and Detroit.

The story goes that in 1850, thirty Negroes a day crossed the Detroit River to Ontario by the Underground Railroad.

Mr. Marcus Swift, a Circuit Rider for the Methodist Church, was the driving force locally and Nankin for the underground railroad. Mr. Swift led the battle against slavery here and in the surrounding areas.

In 1835, Mr. Swift refused ordination at the Methodist Episcopal Conference, even though he had fulfilled all requirements to becoming a church elder because, according to local history, the church's elders asked that Swift discontinue his strong anti-slavery campaign.

Mr. Swift refused and left the church to later join the Wesleyan Methodist group which opposed slavery.

Mr. Swift's home in the area of Ann Arbor Road and the Rouge River was set ablaze because of his support to the Underground Railroad. Mr. Swift and his family were not at home at the time of the fire.

Wayne's underground railroad station was set up at the northwest corner of Michigan Avenue and Venoy Road, in the home owned by Glode Chubb, a follower of Swift.

There was a cave dug in the bank of the Rouge River with a tunnel that led to Chubb's cellar where fugitive slaves were provided food and rest before starting on their precarious journey to Canada.

There were also other Underground Railroad stations established in the area of the Rouge River, at Ann Arbor Trail and Wayne Road. The Romulus Methodist Church, known then as "The White Church" was among the many who played a prominent role in helping slaves reach their destination.

• • •

Here's a bit of history from the City of Wayne.

How would you like to be able to have a piece of local history as a keepsake?

The City of Wayne Community Development Department, in conjunction with the Wayne Historical Society, will hold their first-ever Historical Photo Sales during Wheelfest weekend.

The photos will be on display and for sale from noon to 1 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 24, and Sun., Aug. 25. Their booth will be located in Goudy Park, directly behind the Wayne City Hall on Wayne Road.

Photos are $10 each and the framing is available for an additional fee.

If you need more information, contact the CDD at 734-722-2002.

Who will replace Lentine?

While Mayor Al Haidous and members of the Wayne City Council ponder the question about whom they want to replace Councilwoman Josephine Lentine, Wayne voters on Tuesday definitely made it clear that they want Jennifer Granholm as their next governor of the State of Michigan.

Granholm defeated Congressman Dave Bonior by 254 votes (929-675) and former Gov. James Blanchard by 328 votes (929-601) to earn the Democratic Party's nomination for the office. She also won a clear-cut decision statewide and will advance to the general election scheduled for Nov. 5 to face the Republican Party's favorite son, Dick Posthumus, who received 485 votes locally. Posthumus serves as Lt. Governor in the Engler Administration.

There were no real surprises in the primary. What caught local voters by surprise last week was the unexpected announcement by Lentine that she is resigning her council seat, setting up speculation on who the council will appoint, if anyone.

City Clerk Mary Carney said on Tuesday that she has not received written conformation from Lentine, "but I expect I will before the next (council) meeting."

Mayor and council could revisit the field of candidates in the November 6, 2001 city elections and pick a candidate from that field. Among the top vote receivers were Donald Hartford, Albert M. Damitio, and Kenneth Warfield.

Council may opt to use the last election as criteria or they also may ask potential candidates to submit a brief biographical resume and interview them to find the next council member.

"It will be up to mayor and council to decide who they want, if anyone, to fill the vacancy," said City Manager John Zech. "The appointee would serve until the city's next regularly scheduled election which is in 2003."

Carney said that Tuesday's primary "went off without a hitch." She said that the pre-primary publicity cautioning voters that "they couldn't split their ticket" helped inform the voters that the election was a partisan one.

"The weather wasn't a factor. It was near perfect. We had 25 percent of our registered voters vote, and for a primary that's a pretty good turnout," Carney added.

In the major races, such as the U. S. Senate, Wayne voters liked incumbent Carl Levin who received 1,929 votes. Republican nominee Andrew Raczkowski had 464.

In the redrawn Congressional District - Wayne is in the 11th District, newcomer Kevin Kelley won the Democratic Party nomination. Kelley received 1,697 votes. In Wayne, long-time lawmaker Thaddeus McCotter crushed opponent David C. Haggerty, 307 to 188, and will meet Kelley in the general election.

Although incumbent John C. Stewart lost to challenger Jonathon Grant by 13 votes in Wayne, 255-242, Stewart was the overwhelming choice district-wide of the Republican Party in the 11th. He has a date to meet Democratic Party challenger Mark Blackwell, who received 1,517 votes in Wayne.

In the race for the Democratic Party's nomination for the Wayne County Executive's Office, Robert Ficano was the only candidate to receive four digit numbers in Wayne. He also defeated his two major opponents, Benny Napoleon and Ricardo Solomon, 3-1, in the county-wide election.

Wheelfest wants your beautiful babies

Officials set contest deadline for Aug. 22

Babies are beautiful.

We all know that.

And so are little boys and girls.

The 2002 Wheelfest Beautiful Baby and Junior Prince and Princess contest committee members are looking for that special one to reign over the festival later this month.

Applications are available at the Wayne Community Center, Howe and Annapolis Road. There is a Thursday, Aug. 22, deadline to submit applications to enter the contest.

Contestants must be Wayne residents. Parents also must fill out an application and turn it in with a photo of their child and a decorated coffee can.

Applicants for the Beautiful Baby Contest must be returned to St. Mary's Parish and the Junior Prince and Princess Contest forms can be turned in at Wayne Lawns and Garden store on Wayne Road.

Each of these contests raise money for good causes, Wheelfest Committee members say.

The Junior Prince and Princess contest is sponsored by the Wayne Westland Junior Miss Scholarship Program. All proceeds go toward scholarships for local high school female students.

The Beautiful Baby contest is sponsored by St. Mary's Club Scout Pack 247. Part of the proceeds from the contest will go toward the Metro Crisis Center.

Also, if you believe you have an extraordinary pet, you can enter it in the Pet Contest. The deadline to enter that contest is also Aug. 22.

Applications may be picked up at the Wayne Community Center and at Goody's Pet Supply Store.

For more information about these contests or any Wheelfest program please contact the Wayne Community Center at 721-7400.

'If the shoe fits'

Student awarded scholarship

A Wayne resident was awarded a scholarship to attend Michigan Technological University.

Craig Lang was selected from more than 600 applicants by the Two/Ten International Footwear Foundation for this year's scholarship program.

The Two/Ten International Footwear Foundation Scholarship Program was established in 1969 to provide need-based scholarships to people in the footwear, leather, and allied industries The program helps students meet the costs of higher education, vocational/technical school, and nursing programs.

Annual awards range from $200 to $3,000 and may be renewed. The grants are based on academic excellence, community involvement, personal promise and financial need.

Founded in 1939, the footwear foundation was created as a response to suffering of shoepeople during the Great Depression. Now over 14,000 members worldwide support the mission of "Shoepeople Helping Shoepeople."

Craig Lang

ABSTRACT

WAYNE CITY COUNCIL

MEETING NO. 2002-22

AUGUST 5, 2002

Special Meeting of the City Council held Monday, August 5, 2002 at 8:00 p.m. at Wayne City Hall. Members Present: Haidous, Dobrowolski, McEachern, Dickerson, Lentine, Shackelford. Members Absent: Kelly, excused. APPROVED: minutes of Regular Meeting of July 16, 2002, permission to conduct Sidewalk Sales on August 8, 9 & 10; bid awards for rifles and laser radar speed measuring instruments for the Police Dept. and picnic shelter for Rotary Park II; second reading and adoption of the rezoning of 4953 Venoy Rd.; first reading of amendment to Fire Prevention Code; resolution supporting revenue sharing veto override; declaration of 35355 Elm St. & Prop. ID #55-009-01-0186-000 a Hazard/Nuisance; payment to AIS Construction Equip. for repair of DPW backhoe; purchase of defibrillator/monitor for Fire Dept.; resolution in support of application to MDOT for funding from the Critical Bridge Program; 6-year Collective Bargaining Agreement with 29th District Court employees; Weed list No. 2002-7; Change Order #1 with Engan-TooleyDoyle & Assoc., Inc., regarding the Angelo Demario Playground Project. Received and filed Communications and Reports and Consent Calender. Adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Mary E. Carney
City Clerk

Publish: August 15, 2002

CITY OF WAYNE

PUBLIC NOTICE
OF NUISANCE & HAZARD

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a nuisance and safety hazard exists, consisting of debris on front and rear porch, tires, oil drain pan and oil containers, refrigerator in yard and a garage and fence in need of repair, by the City Council to be dangerous to the welfare of the inhabitants of the City of Wayne or those in the adjacent area, on property reflecting your name as the owner of record in the City of Wayne, declared 35355 Elm Street, Tax ID No. 055-003-02-0208-000.

The owner of said property has been notified but has failed to correct the situation. The owner of said property is hereby required to abate or remove said nuisance and hazard on or before August 16, 2002.

Failure to abate or remove the nuisance and hazard will cause the City Manager to order its removal and assess the costs thereof to the property by special assessment.

BY ORDER OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WAYNE

Mary E. Carney
City Clerk

Publish: August 15, 2002

CITY OF ROMULUS

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE ROMULUS CITY COUNCIL HELD JULY 22, 2002 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER ROMULUS CITY HALL, 11111 S. WAYNE ROAD, ROMULUS, MICHIGAN 48714.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Chairwoman Pro Tem Debbie Romak

Present: LeRoy D. Burcroff, William A. Crova, Charles Miller, Michael Prybyla, Debbie Romak, William Wadsworth
Excused: Randolph Gear
Absent: None

Administrative Officials in Attendance:
Alan Lambert, Mayor
Linda R. Choate, CMC, Clerk

1. Motion by Crova, supported by Burcroff to approve the agenda as presented.
Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays - None. Motion Carried Unanimously.

02-273

2A. Motion by Wadsworth, supported by Miller to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council held July 8, 2002.
Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Crova, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. Abstain - Burcroff. Motion Carried.

02-274

3A. Motion by Miller, supported by Wadsworth to grant authorization for a tent to be placed on the vacant lot owned by the City of Romulus across from the Romulus Community Baptist Church, 6200 Fourth on August 10, 2002 from 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays - None. Motion Carried Unanimously.

3B. No action taken.

02-275

3C. Motion by Crova, supported by Burcroff to authorize the transfer of ownership of a 2000 Class C licensed business in escrow from Restaurant Entrepreneurs, Inc., 9910 N. Telegraph, Redford Twp. to Gateway Grill LLC, 33290 Gateway Drive, Romulus, MI.
Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays - None. Motion Carried Unanimously.

4. Motion by Prybyla, supported by Burcroff to accept the Chairperson's Report.
Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays - None. Motion Carried Unanimously.

02-276

5A. Motion by Wadsworth, supported by Crova to award bid 02/03-05 for Sign Posts and Accessories to. the only bidder, Unistrut Detroit Service Company at a "per piece" pricing to remain in effect until July 22, 2003.
Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays - None. Motion Carried Unanimously.

02-277

5B. Motion by Crova, supported by Burcroff to award bid 02/03-07 for Dust Control to the only bidder, Suburban Oil Company at a bid price of $.355 per gallon for no more than 90,000 gallons of Liquid Calcium Chloride.
Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays - None. Motion Carried Unanimously.

02-278

5C. Motion by Burcroff, supported by Wadsworth to grant authorization to pay the 2002 SEMCOG Membership Dues in the amount of $3,300.00.
Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays - None. Motion Carried Unanimously.

02-279

6A1 a. Motion by Wadsworth, supported by Crova to concur with the recommendation of the Property Disposition Committee and award excess City owned property ID #80-067-02-0329-303 to Richard McBride in the amount of $220.00.
Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays - None. Motion Carried Unanimously.

00-280

6A1b. Motion by Crova, supported by Burcroff to concur with the recommendation of the Property Disposition Committee and deny the request to purchase excess City owned property ID#s 80-077-05-0032-000 and 80-077-05-0035-000 from David Marshall, Jr. because the purchase price did not meet market value.
Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays - None. Motion Carried Unanimously.

02-281

6A2. Motion by Crova, supported by Miller to designate Mayor Alan Lambert as the voting delegate and to authorize the Mayor to appoint an alternate to the annual meeting of the Michigan Municipal League to be held in Dearborn, Michigan on September 11-13, 2002.
Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays - None. Motion Carried Unanimously.

02-282

11. Motion by Prybyla, supported by Wadsworth to grant authorization for payment of Warrant 02-14 in the grand total amount of Nine Hundred Sixteen Thousand, Sixty Four Dollars and Nine Cents ($926,064.09).
Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays - None. Abstain - Crova. Motion Carried.

12. Motion by Wadsworth, supported by Prybyla to adjourn the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council.
Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays - None. Motion Carried Unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda R. Choate, CMC, Clerk
City of Romulus, Michigan

I, Linda R. Choate, CMC, Clerk for the City of Romulus, Michigan do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of the minutes of the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council held July 22, 2002.

Linda R. Choate, CMC, Clerk
City of Romulus, Michigan

Publish: August 15, 2002

Wayne County News

Michigan Humane Society opened it's first shelter in 1925. Photo courtesy of Michigan Humane Society

Henry Ford helped to create Michigan Humane Society

HISTORY

The Westland branch of Michigan Humane Society branch has roots in Detroit

Prominent Detroiters Frank Cody, Mrs. John Dodge, Henry Ford, Mr. and Mrs. Abner Larned, Mrs. Henry Ledyard, Mrs. Edwin T. Lodge, and T. W. Palmer founded and served state animal protection organizations during the 19th and early 20th centuries.

Thomas Witherall Palmer was the first President of the Michigan Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, founded in 1877. He served as President of the Society until his election to the U.S. Senate in 1883.

The Michigan Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (MSPCA) was the first of its kind in Michigan and was the predecessor of today's Michigan Humane Society. The MSPCA laid the foundation for the animal protection movement in Detroit.

A second animal protection organization was formed in Detroit in 1912 by the women of the Twentieth Century Club. Mrs. Abner Larned took the helm of the Animal Welfare Association and soon the AWA was well recognized for their work on behalf of animals. These two organizations incorporated in 1925 to form the Michigan Humane Society.

Frank Cody had a long association with public education in Detroit as well as the Michigan Humane Society and he furthered the Michigan Humane Society Humane Education program begun in 1925 by helping establish humane education in all Detroit Public Schools by 1927.

Henry Ford served as vice-president of the Society and assisted in the purchase of a new horse ambulance in 1935.

Even more important than who these people were, was their vision for animal welfare in Detroit and Wayne County.

In a 1935 interview about the work of the Michigan Humane Society, Mr. Abner Larned is quoted as saying "All this is work that no civilized city can afford to be without." He is also quoted as saying "There is a definite relationship between human needs and humane needs."

This vision and dedication to this cause carries on in today's Michigan Humane Society. Over 48,000 unwanted, injured or homeless animals pass through the doors of the Society's shelters each year. The Society is driven to develop innovative ways to place more animals in homes, alleviate animal suffering and to teach humane values for the benefit of all animals.

Deputies juggle jobs, barbells

Wayne County Sheriff's Deputies Becky Tripp and Diane McKee have more in common than their jobs. Both are working mothers balancing jobs, families, and barbells.

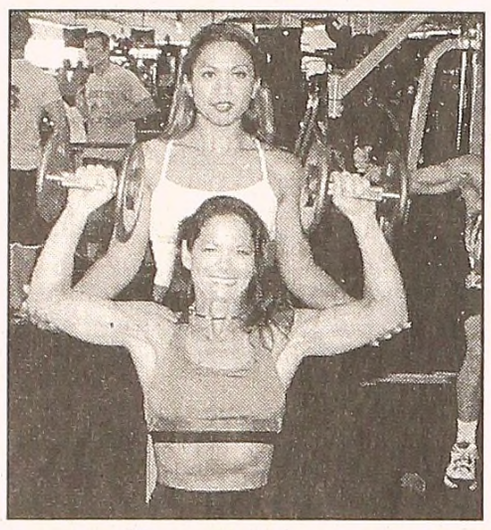
The two deputies are preparing to compete against 50 to 200 women from all over the U.S. in the 2002 Nova Fitness Championship Series in Mesa, Ariz., Aug. 8-10. This is their first time competing in the championship, which includes a military-style obstacle course and physique competition

Tripp and McKee have been training together two hours a day, seven days a week for almost two years to prepare for this competition. They alternate days running at the track and weight training at Powerhouse Gym in Brownstown.

"Diane and I decided to enter this competition because we needed a goal and a focus to improve our workouts," said Tripp. "We also think being physically fit is important in our jobs."

"We chose to compete in Nova because it focuses on strength and endurance. It's not just a beauty contest," said McKee. "It is centered around positive role models."

The 35-year-old Tripp, who lives in Brownstown, has worked for the Sheriff for eight years. She works in administration in the Internal Affairs section and conducts background investigations on new police officers. She and her husband, Greg, who is also a deputy, have a son, Matthew, 13.



Deputy Diane McKee spots sister fitness buff Deputy Becky Tripp. Photo courtesy of Wayne County Sheriff/Airport Police Local 502

Deputies Tripp and McKee often bring their children with them to their daily workouts, allowing them to spend time with their children while impressing on them the importance of fitness and health.

"Matthew trains with us three to four times a week," said Tripp. "I want to be a positive role model for my son and encourage him to incorporate fitness and nutrition in his everyday life."

Tripp has been a fitness buff for most of her adult life. Last year, she won first place in a women's push-up competition in Fort Lauderdale, FL. Tripp will compete in the Nova Fitness Women's Masters Overall.

McKee, 27 and a Woodhaven resident, has worked for the Sheriff for four years. She books prisoners and works floor security at the Dickerson Detention Facility in Hamtramck. A widow, she has an 8-year-old daughter named Nadia.

McKee first became involved in fitness because she wanted to be more physically fit and lose weight. She will compete in the Nova Fitness Women's Open Overall. Last year she was the head coach for three cheerleading teams as part of the Cheer America Trenton Team.

"Nadia comes to the track with us several times a week," said McKee. "This way I can spend time with my daughter and stay in shape so I'm able to keep up with her," she laughingly said.

McKee plans to attend Wayne State University in the fall to study public relations. She eventually wants to go to law school.

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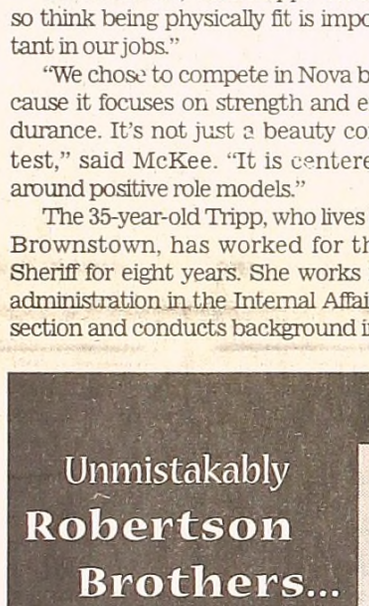

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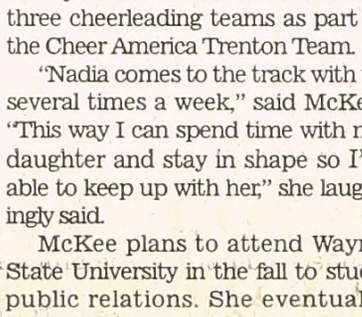

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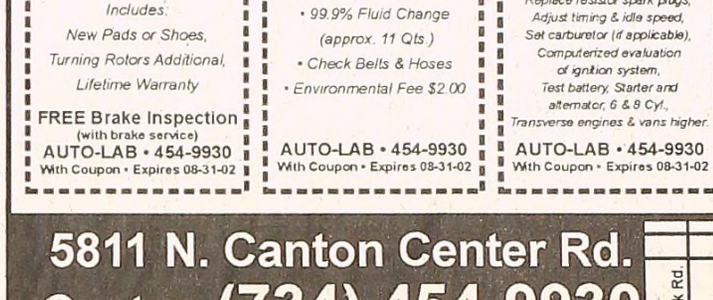

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Trenton Kitchen/Bath 734-692-0072

Bureaucracy grows despite Lambert's campaign promises

Mike's musings
Mike Wilcox

Business is not usual with the Romulus Police Department. Mayor Alan Lambert, elected nine months ago, and previously a Romulus cop, is making waves as he attempts to create a fulltime fire department.

Mayor Lambert, in a burst of creativity, decided the best way to finance a fire department would be to induce some of the oldtimers in the police department to retire. The City Council added further impetus, by demanding the Mayor make cuts because as a majority they felt the police department had a payroll that was out-of-line.

Taken at face value, the idea has merit. No one would argue that it is not time for Romulus to have fulltime firefighters around the clock. And squeezing the police department for part of that budget probably makes sense. But, somewhere along the line Mayor Lambert and his cronies have gotten off track.

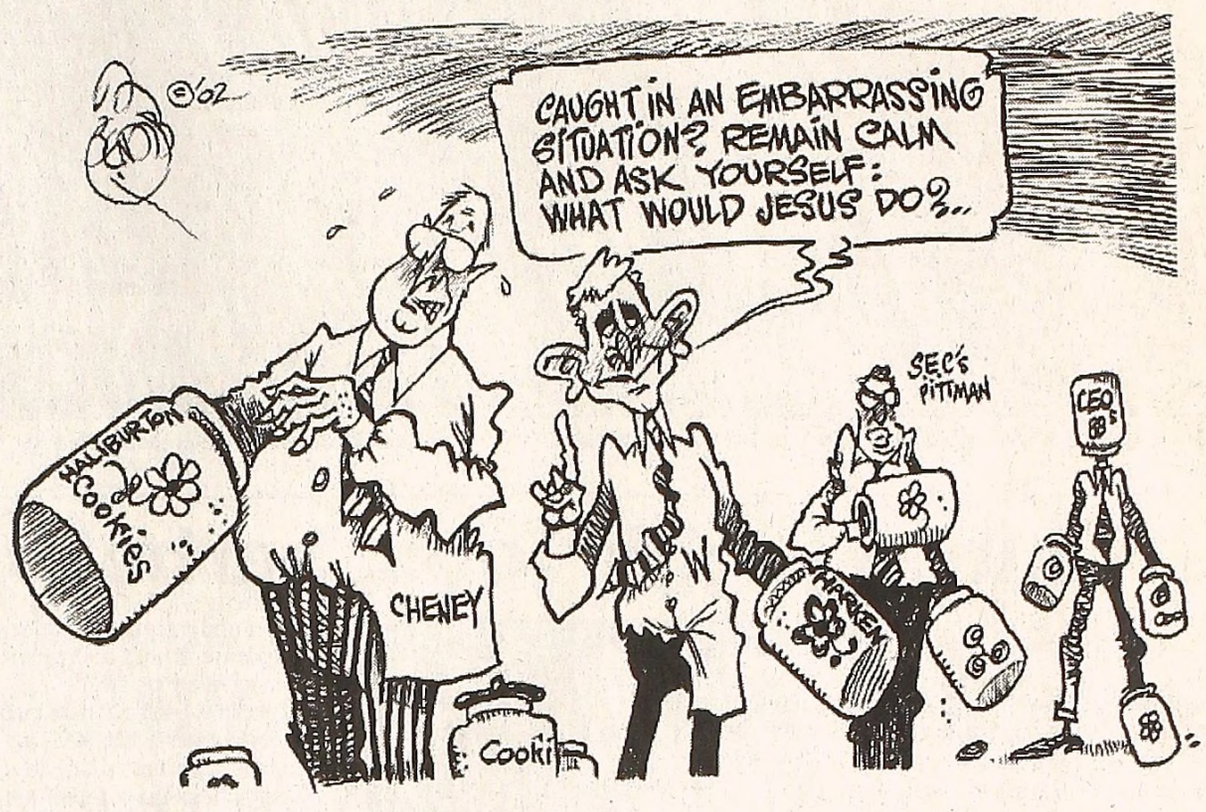
For instance, Mayor Lambert promised this writer and thousands of Romulus residents while campaigning that he would reduce the number of people at City Hall. He railed endlessly about former Mayor Oakley's deputy mayor position.

So what does Lambert do? Immediately he asks, and gets approval for a Public Relations Director at $50,000 a year. Very few communities the size of Romulus have even parttime PR people, let alone a fulltime guy. And immediately he takes a cop away from police duties and makes him his personal assistant. Some claim he is deputy mayor. Others claim he is the Mayor's driver. Whatever he is, it is not necessary.

But now, the bureaucracy has expanded again. As Mayor Lambert announces many command officers must retire because after 25 years of service they are "burned out." He has appointed Police Chief Kirby, a 33-year veteran, to the position of Public Safety Director, giving him a nice fat $12,000 raise, and allowing him to oversee both the police and fire departments.

In his place Gerald Champagne, on duty as a sergeant for a measly seven months is the new deputy chief and thus in charge of the police department. Maybe his promotion was warranted, even though he leapfrogged others with much more experience, but we will never know because Kirby will not let us talk to him.

We want to see a fulltime fire department in Romulus. But more so, we do not feel residents want to see additional layers of bureaucracy added to create it. Some members of the police department are crying foul because favoritism appears to be the Mayor's favorite word. Maybe they are right, or maybe they are wrong, but if appearances count for anything, the Mayor has a lot of explaining to do.



Don't blame Engler for cuts

Vantastic
Ivan Helfman

Where's Pogo when we need him?

Pogo, a political cartoon created in reaction to the McCarthy-era witch hunt against Reds, said, "We've seen the enemy and he's us."

Fifty years later, we have the same enemy but lack Pogo's ability to admit it.

Take the latest witch hunt, the crusade against Gov. John Engler for trying to blackmail voters to reject three state referendums in the November election.

The referendums would require binding arbitration for disputes with state workers; spend the state's tobacco lawsuit settlement money on health and anti-smoking campaigns; and eliminate mandatory sentences for drug crimes.

However, Engler claims passage of all the referendums could cost the state about $1 billion. To pressure voters to vote against the referendums, Engler cut $845 million in state-revenue-sharing payments to local governments.

Talk about bullying. This blatant blackmail attempt would take away about $4 million from Westland and about $2 million from Canton.

So a lynch mob was scheduled to descend on Lansing Tuesday at noon (after this article was written) and demand that the state House and Senate to pass Canton Rep. Bruce Patterson's bill to override Engler's cuts.

"Every legislator, Republican or Democratic alike, should be outraged at the Governor's action," said Democrat George Mans, a candidate for state senate against Patterson in a district that runs from Canton south to Downriver.

Why should anybody be outraged by Engler's power politics when voters urged him on for 12 years?

Back in 1994, Engler, using a tactic perfected by millage-hungry school boards, blackmailed voters into passing Proposition A, a constitutional amendment shifting a portion of state property taxes to sales taxes.

To get the votes, Engler threatened to increase the state's income tax if Proposition A failed.

Vote or else was Engler's message.

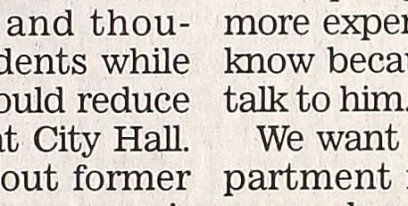
Rather than throw the blackmailer out of office, voters passed Proposition A, praised Engler, and reelected him with a huge majority.

Blackmail us was the voter's message, and Engler listened well. On issue after issue, he bullied state reps, state senators, and President Bush (according to an article in the *New Yorker*, Engler led the fight to weaken the president's education reform bill so as not to embarrass Michigan's failing public schools), and voters groveled and cheered.

He bullied everybody except Wayne County Exec Ed McNamara, who teamed up with Engler to bully the Wayne County Commission into surrendering control of Metro Airport.

Why blame Engler for being Michigan's Dominatrix in Chief? To paraphrase Pogo, "We've seen the masochist and he's us."

Sucker voters born every minute


Medium Rare
Jim Rarey

P. T. Barnum, the circus magnate and master showman is supposed to have said, "There's a sucker born every minute." One wag added, "And two to take him." Why must Michigan voters prove him right election after election?

It seems all the politicians have to do is say we need more money and it's for the schools, or the police, or the senior citizens or some other popular cause and the voters pass a tax increase. But what is the money really used for?

First it was the lottery. Just pass it and there will be more money for the schools. But what it really did was free up money from the general fund for the politicians' pet projects.

Then there was Proposal A. More money for the schools and a reduction in property taxes we were told. What really happened? A sales tax was substituted for property taxes (which is not tax deductible on one's federal return as were property taxes), the state got a lock on school financing, and more money was freed up from the general fund for politicians' pet projects.

In recent elections, local politicians have jumped on the bandwagon. There has been a spate of special millage elections for, schools and police and fire. Some are legitimate where the money is to pay off bonds used to pay for infrastructure, e.g. buildings and other capital improvements. But some are for operating expenses.

The question that never seems to be asked is what are they going to do with the extra money that is freed up in the general fund that was going to the schools or police and fire, etc.

Even if the measure that is passed by the voters requires the additional money to be spent for a specific purpose, and not all of the ballot proposals did that, what about the money that is freed up for other purposes.

In Bloomfield Township, a developer mounted a campaign that defeated a millage request that supposedly would have gone for "Public Safety" operating expenses. The question was raised as to how the extra money would be used. The developer suspected the extra money would be used to fight his proposed development that has been the subject of an annexation tug of war between Pontiac and the township. Whether he was right or not, he correctly identified that the city had made no binding commitment as to how the money would be spent.

The millage lost by 547 votes, the first public safety millage to lose in that township in forty years. Now, city leaders are crying foul saying the extra money they were asking had nothing to do with the dispute with the developer.

The lesson to be learned here, for both the politicians and the voters is this. Not only should the ballot measure make a binding commitment as to where the money will be spent. The politicians must explain what they will do with the general fund money being freed up that previously went for the expenses to be covered by the special millage. If they are not willing to do that, they deserve to lose millage elections.

Jim Rarey can be reached at (734) 942-7667 or E-mail to jimrarey@comcast.net.

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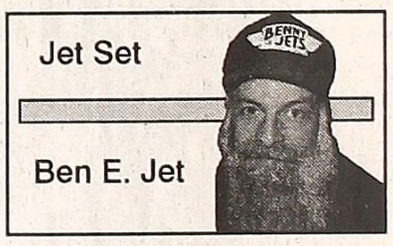
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Ben E. Jet

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When you're cruising in your '57 Chevy, think about taking a drive to Hazel Park Race Track on 10 Mile and Dequinder, just off I-696's Hazel Park exit. Every Friday for the month of August, it is one of Benny and the Jets favorite gigs.

Outdoors under the gazebo in a park-like setting. Food, drinks, dancing, and live horse racing. Feel free to bring the family.

Heard from Carla Gibson, who works with the Wayne County Fair. She was happy with the WCF talent search. The winners will go on to perform at the Michigan State Fair on Aug. 28.

WCF winners in the open division include Austin Scott of Redford, Jerry Ried of Canton, and Sarah Lenore of Plymouth. Junior division winners include Sarah Wierchioch of Plymouth and Alyssa Simmons of Romeo. Senior division winners include Rachel Williams of Belleville and Amanda Roundtree of Detroit.

Chuck, the Incurables guitar player, currently playing at an annual biker run in Stergis, South Dakota, wants to promote his new day job at ADT selling home alarms. For more information about the Incurables or to buy an alarm, call him at (734) 595-0593.

Jeff Perry,a local drummer and regular contributor to this column, mourns the passing of Helm Hunt, owner of Club Canton.

Mr. Hunt, who lived in Canton and ran the bar for over 50 years, knew every musician in the area.

If you took Michigan Avenue, from downtown Detroit to Chicago, you might not find a bar that was home to more musicians. Bob Sanderson, Dottie West, Ernest Tubbs, Jack Rainwater, Paul Webb, Leon Thrift, Wally Jackson, Dave Atkins, and Elvis Shelton were just a few who walked through the doors of Club Canton. The bar remains open with the Cactus Jumpers performing.

For more information, play dates or to contact Ben E. Jet, call (313) 730-1627 or surf to WWW.BENNYANDTHEJETS.COM.

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Good riddance John Engler, your poor subjects won't miss you

To all of you John Engler supporters out there, I have only one thing to say, "Thanks for nothing."

What a legacy he will leave behind. Like most bad politicians, much has been hidden for years by those closest to him at the top.

His latest move, the cutting of state-shared revenue, will be one for the history books. To just pull the rug out from strapped cities shows his true lack of care or concern for the average taxpayer.

I will remember Big John as a heartless dictator for his actions against the mentally ill, our environment, and the hardworking men and women of this state. Good riddance.

Westland officials needs to do more about 'excessive' incineration costs

If the narrow defeat of the Westland Charter Amendment for the Sanitation Millage, as reported by the Detroit News and the Detroit Free Press, holds true, what's next?

Do Westland's mayor and city council actually try to address the concerns that the citizens of Westland have regarding the excessive cost of trash disposal? Or do we see a move to recycle the same proposal for the November general election? Or do the elected leaders of the city just throw their hands up and start cutting other city services?

Maybe the outcome would have been different if there was some indication that the mayor and council actually tried to do something since the last time the millage was rejected — other than put the millage proposal back on the ballot for the primary.

Elected officials will have to learn what a budget is really about

Thank you for all the voters who voted no in the trash millage election.

Now it's time to see if the elected officials can cut the fat at city hall and other places. Fire and Police should not be touched, but let's get rid of directors' cars and other cars that we should of never had in the first place.

Maybe the Friendship Center could be closed, and let Dyer Center get the Friendship Center's items. Then we could eliminate Peggy Ellenwood's director position.

Also if any city of Westland employee lives out of the city of Westland, they should pay a city tax to work here. That would raise a lot of revenues as most of them live in Canton and other places.

Many Westland citizens have lost jobs and are on unemployment. There are a lot of foreclosures in the area. The citizens have had to tighten their belts, and now the officials we elected last year will have to learn what a budget is really about.

Will take guts for Westland to cut spending for local powermongers' benefit

If Westland wanted to cut some spending, the city could do it but it would take real guts and involve standing up to the powerbrokers in town.

Money controls elections and elections control politicians. And yet, even in disgrace, many former powermongers can't let go of the power. Former Mayor Thomas and his cronies are shameless, every last one them.

MCN
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The six Michigan Community Newspapers, LLC are published Thursdays at 35518 Park St., Wayne, Mich. 48184. Central office are 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Phone 729-4000 for general business: 729-3300 for classified advertising.

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LETTERS FROM OUR READERS

Budget cuts now are in mayor's court

To the editor:

The election is over and once again the voters said no, even though this time it was called a charter amendment. Nice try.

Now Mayor Sandra Cicirelli says we'll have to trim city service by next July, and it will be necessary to cut budget , services or employees.

That was tried once before. When Chuck Pickering was elected mayor, six of the seven council members said we had a $850,000 shortfall, and they put a budget together that cut the salaries of the assistant mayor and cut the pay for two department heads Pickering hired by 20 percent.

They said they would have rolling shutdowns of fire stations to make up the shortfall that they said we had.

Chuck vetoed that budget and at the next council meeting they were going to override that veto, but I asked how many department heads we had (we had 15), and if they had asked them to take a cut across the board, or if this was just political.

They didn't override Chuck's veto. Ask Chuck.

Sandy, you say that you made all the cuts that you could. I don't think so.

I remember back when we had the golden buyout for department heads, the raises for department heads, and the directors' ability to buy extra years on their retirements.

If the city is in trouble as you say, then ask the people at the top to take cuts or give back money to help get the city through its crunch, unless the only reason they're here is to pad their pockets.

Make cuts in city services that hurt people, and make no mistake about it, unlike Keith Madden said, the cuts start at the top, not the bottom.

And you can put in the legal department since they did the contract on the incinerator, which got us here.

Because it's the people at the top that are supposed to handle our money to get the most for the least of our money, unless that's all they want — our money.

The balls are in your court Sandy. Let's see who you work for.

James R. Davis
Westland

Most charter schools run to make profits

To the editor:

I am surprised that several facts about charter schools have not been discussed in your newspaper.

- In Michigan, over 90 percent of all students are educated in the public schools system.
- Michigan is the State that has the 3rd most number of charter schools.
- Over 70 percent of all charter schools in Michigan are run by private management companies for profit.
- No elected School Boards for charter schools, therefore no accountability. No requirement by law to disclose finances.
- Nepotism is unchecked.
- Turnover of teachers is almost 100 percent within three years.
- Charter schools are a place where teachers go to look for another job.
- The State Auditor General's report, a 93-page study, dated June 10, 2002 severely criticized the complete lack of oversight of charter schools.
- Academically charter schools are inferior (test scores).
- Each charter school receives at least $6,700 per pupil of our state tax dollars.

I am not paying for vouchers or more charter schools. I do not want my taxes raised in order to pay for vouchers or more charter schools.

Sincerely,
Ivan Mich
Plymouth

State turns dorky hobby into crime

To the editor:

A very large group of citizens who enjoy the hobby of metal detecting have been dealt a crippling blow by the director of State Lands and Parks.

New rules are the result of ignorant policy makers who fell prey to the whims of a greedy archeologist.

Michigan has few if any true archeological treasures as real archeologists define them. To consider the preservation of literally thousands of Great Lake Shipwrecks as archeologically important, and to do so at taxpayer expense is truly fraud.

Our State Archeologist should be considered the person with the least amount of job security yet he appears to have greater power than the governor himself.

Information about archeological sites is protected from the Freedom of Information Act, clearly it could be argued to protect sensitive areas from looting. It could also be argued to guard the public from learning there are none.

The state archeologist, has successfully convinced the state to make 99 percent of our state lands off limits to law-abiding taxpayers who enjoy metal detecting. He may point to renegade detectorists who were once caught looting an Indian burial site.

Actually, detecting hobbyist abhor such crime. Detectorist do not endorse the disturbance of any burial site including disturbance by professional grave robbers, also known as the archeologist.

Last year it was reported that archeologist were unable to account for millions of dollars worth of national treasures, so which ones are missing? When a dig takes place, much of what is found is common items.

These worthless trinkets are added to our museum collections by the box full, the public is ever-so-grateful! What is the public so thankful for — worthless junk?

Did they find any great, valuable, treasures at these digs? Possibly, but we will never see these items, they are channeled into the good-old-boys network and added to personal collections.

They are scientists in the public eye, a lofty position. Commanding respect of our lawmakers, heroes guarding our past.

In truth they are greedy thugs with a license to steal and power to control the activities of countless others to their advantage. The detector user, who has a greater chance of being struck by lightning than disturbing anything of archeological importance, is now confined like a criminal. No longer free to snoop around the state forest areas, unless as a logger who will disturb the ground ten-thousand times more than the detector user, or a firearm-carrying hunter likely to shoot up road signs and leave empty beer cans.

Detector users are the retired police officer, teacher, military man or woman, cab driver or factory who worked hard for many years supporting these lands, our lands.

I hope Michigan's tourism industry is aware of this brain-dead decision. Word is sweeping the nation via Internet and hundreds of families are changing vacation destinations to states where they are welcome.

Michigan lawmakers say, "Detector users go elsewhere!"

Allan C. Holden
Federation of Metal Detecting and Archeological Clubs

Anderson thanks voters

To the editor:

On behalf of my family and myself, I'd like to express my heartfelt thanks to the citizens of Westland for their vote of confidence on August 6th. I thank all those who took the time to vote and particularly those whose kind words gave us added inspiration during the course of the campaign.

I am honored by the support I have received and will continue to work hard for our community.

Sincerely,
18th District
Rep. Glenn Anderson
Westland

Glenn Anderson

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WESTWOOD COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
NOTICE OF FILLING OF VACANCY TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR AN UNEXPIRED TERM

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that any legally qualified person of the District may apply for the appointment to the Westwood Board of Education for the unexpired term ending June 30, 2003, to fill a vacancy. Those persons that are interested in being considered for the appointment must notify the Secretary of the Board of Education, in writing, including a short biographical sketch. The interview with the Board shall take place at 7:00 p.m., August 19, 2002, and the successful candidate will be announced, accepted and sworn in the following day, at 7:00 p.m., August 20, 2002, at the Administrative Center, 3335 S. Beech Daly, Dearborn Heights, Michigan, 48125.
THIS NOTICE IS GIVEN BY ORDER OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE WESTWOOD COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE CITIES OF DEARBORN, DEARBORN HEIGHTS, AND INKSTER, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN.

TIMOTHY T. EMERY, Secretary,
Board of Education, Westwood Community School District

Publish: August 8, 2002
August 15, 2002

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OBITUARIES

BIESZK, DARYL JOSEPH, 25, of Belleville (formerly of Tawas City), passed away July 19. Daryl was a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Belleville. He was an avid outdoorsman. He especially enjoyed fishing. He also liked to read and listen to music. Loving son of Daniel K. and Donna L. (Bailey) Bieszk of Belleville. Dear brother of Dawn Bieszk of Belleville. Dearest grandson of Darlene Bailey of Belleville. Loved uncle of Aubrey Ross of Belleville. Also survived by many aunts, uncles, and cousins. Preceded in death by his maternal grandfather Carl Bailey and his paternal grandparents James and Mary Bieszk. Cremation rites have been accorded. A memorial service was held at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Belleville with Pastor James Frey officiating. An interment of his cremains was held at Hillside Cemetery in Belleville. Memorial contributions can be made in his honor to the wishes of the Bieszk family. David C. Brown Funeral Home in Belleville made arrangements.

COLLINS, SOPHIA, 92, of Belleville, passed away August 4 at St. Joseph mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor. Beloved sister of Stella Pieknik and Henry (Beanie) Traskos. Dear mother-in-law of Shirley Marie Witkowski of Belleville. Loving grandmother of Donna Marie Witkowski of Belleville. Preceded in death by her husband Richard Collins; her son Frank A. Witkowski; her siblings Joseph Traskos, Stephanie Karczewski, Stanley Traskos, Walter Traskos, Sylvester Traskos, and Harry Traskos; and her parents Sylvester and Mary (Stankowska) Traskos. Funeral services were held at David C. Brown Funeral Home with rev. Tom Burdette officiating. Interment followed at Michigan memorial Park in Flat Rock. Memorial contributions can be made in her honor to St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Emergency Room or Cardiac Care.

DIXON JR., RANDALL WAYNE, 26, of Flat Rock, passed away August 1. Loving husband of Christine (Billadeau) Dixon. Beloved son of Randall W. (Laura) Dixon Sr. and Donna (Mounts) Zeleniakas. Loved stepfather of Russell and Jennifer Strawsine. Dearest grandson of William and Doris Dixon, and Guy and Mary Mounts. Dear brother of Ann (Todd) Johnson. Dear uncle of Samantha Johnson and Toddy Johnson. Funeral services were held at Crane Funeral Home with Pastor John Goodman officiating. Interment followed at Michigan memorial Park in Flat Rock.

EDISON, LESSIE, 79, of Inkster (born in Birmingham, AL to Clifford and Lessie Lee Baker), passed away June 26. Arrangements were made by Penn Funeral Home with services held at Grater First Missionary Baptist Church. Rev. William Cooper officiated. Interment followed at Knollwood Memorial Park.

FEATHERINGILL, RHEA E., passed away peacefully on July 27, 2002 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital. She was born March 5, 1928 to Fred and Mary Pfahl of Tawas City. She has two sisters and two brothers, Erma Lou Herriman (Kenneth, deceased) of Allen Park; Don and Marilyn Webb of National City; Les and Rose Mary Pfahl of Bowling Green, KY; and Richard and Judy Pfahl of Hale. She married Addison J. "Bud" Featheringill on May 17, 1947 in Tawas City. They then moved to Ypsilanti and then to the Belleville area. He preceded her in death on October 4, 1985. She worked at Motor State Products in Ypsilanti until the birth of her sons. After they were in school she returned to work at the Willow Run Laboratories, and later at ERIM (from where she retired). During her retirement years she worked part-time at Hudson's in Ann Arbor; prepared lunches at the church; worked on blood drives; baked and delivered cookies to the elderly; assisted people to their doctor appointments; helped many with household chores; and visited many with whom she felt most needed it. She did these things not for recognition, but because she enjoyed them. She loved people and loved helping them in any way that she could. One of her most passionate personal activities was caring for her flowers. She is survived by her sons and their spouses, Darrell and Susan of Dexter; and Danny and Susan of Belleville. She is also survived by her granddaughters Amy and Sara (Will) Cortese; and many nieces and nephews. She will be deeply missed by her family and friends. Memorial contributions can be made in her honor to St. Joseph Women's Cancer Center or Hospice of Washtenaw. Funeral services were held July 30 with Dr. John N. Grenfell III officiating. Arrangements were made by David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville.

GILLIARD, ANNIE N., 73, of Westland (born in Vienna, GA to Oscar and Onnie Graham), passed away July 5. Upon graduating from the Detroit Institute of Commerce she joined the United States Marine Corps and became the First Afro-American woman in the Marines and served as secretary for the Commandants Headquarters in Washington, D.C. She came home from serving her country proudly and honorably and worked for the Air Forces Willow Run Plant. She leaves to cherish her memory her husband of 48 years, Curtis; her children, Stephanie, Curtis Jr., Keith, Susan and Allison; her five grandchildren; family and friends. Funeral services were held at Penn Funeral Home with Supt. Willie Sheard officiating. Cremation rites have been accorded with hopes of having her intered at Arlington National Cemetery.

HARRIS SR., CHESTER R., 74, of Melvindale, passed away July 28. Mr. Harris served his country in the U.S. Army-Air Force. He enjoyed fishing, traveling, and going to casinos. He was well known and like by many and missed by all. Mr. Harris is survived by his children, Jeanette Dobin of Detroit; Chester (Patricia) Harris Jr. of Melvindale; Arthur (Kimberly) Harris of Detroit; Steven (Sandra) Harris of Taylor; Kevin Harris of Melvindale; Anita Harris of Florida; Mark (Rosalinda) Harris of Missouri; Vincent (Rebecca) Harris of Mt. Clemens; Nathan (carrie) Harris of Clinton Township; and Shawn (Aimee) Harris of Clinton Township. His twenty-six grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and his siblings Russell (Angeline) Harris of Belleville, Helen Durell of Westland, and Paul (Sandra) Harris of Detroit also survive him. He is preceded in death by his parents George Henry Harris and Alice Richardson; his brothers, Glen and Donald Harris; and his sister Ruby Harris. Funeral services were held at David C. Brown Funeral Home in Belleville. Interment followed at Alban Cemetery in Ypsilanti. Memorial contributions can be made in his honor to the Harris Family.

HESTER SR., JAMES MARCUS, 85, of Romulus, passed away July 31. Mr. Hester grew up on a plantation in Georgia. He served his country in the U.S. Air Force. Mr. Hester then moved his family to Michigan and settled in the Romulus area. He accepted Christ at an early age and became a Deacon at First Baptist Church. Loving husband of Mattie E. (Cox) Hester whom he married in 1937. Beloved father of Horace Hester, Willie Hester, Barbara Jamison, Marsha Saafir, Deborah Hester, Roberta Hester, Sherry Hester, and Lavonne Sledd. Also survived by two brother-in-laws, three sister-in-laws, a host of grandchildren, nieces and other relatives and friends. Preceded in death by his parents Mac and Magnolia (Adams) Hester, three sons, and one daughter. Funeral services were held at First Baptist Church in Romulus with Rev. Charles Woolridge officiating. Interment followed at Romulus Cemetery.

HOLT, ANGELINE, 62, of Inkster (born in Hernando, MS to Issac and Lillie Cathey), passed away June 28. She provided leadership in the YMCA teens and the Girl Scouts. She was also and avid camper. She worked for the Chrysler Corp. for over 30 years. She leaves to cherish her memory her husband of 40+ years Alvon; her daughter Angela; her son Phillip; two children; family and friends. Arrangements were made by Penn Funeral Home. Services were held at Annapolis Park Church of Christ with Rev. Terrance McClain officiating.

KELLER, BETHA C., 83, of Naples, FL (formerly of Wayne and Pickney, MI), passed away July 29, 2002 in Florida. Beloved wife of the late Dallas Keller. Dear mother of Christine (Hiro) Arnott-Fujimoto. Loving grandmother of Kimberly Kelley, Abigail Duncan, and Stuart Arnott. Also survived by great-grandchildren Billy and Danny Arnott, and Kaitlynn Kelley. Mrs. Keller was a longtime employee of the National Bank of Detroit in Wayne. A memorial service will be held on November 11, 2002 in Naples Florida. Memorial tributes may be sent to the Alzheimers Association or the American Diabetes Association.

NEUMANN, JAMES B., 45, passed away August 4. He is survived by his brothers Al, Larry, Russ, and Paul; his sisters Alberta and Rosalind; two brother-in-laws; four sister-in-laws; and many nieces and nephews. Harry J. Will Funeral Home in Wayne made arrangements. Cremation rites have been accorded.

SIMMONS, WILLIE A., 87, of Inkster (born in Snowhill, AL to Ernest and Pauline Hill), passed away June 21. Penn Funeral Home in Inkster made funeral arrangements. Cremation rites have been accorded.

SMITH, THERRON, 87, of Inkster (born in Prattville, AL to Moten and Rose Smith), passed away July 5. He was employed by general Motors for 20 years and served as a member of Amity Baptist Church's Board of Deacons until his health failed. He leaves to cherish his memory his wife of 55 years Cora; his son Johnny; his grandchildren, Johnny and Crystal; his three brothers; five sisters; family and friends. Arrangements were made by Penn Funeral Home with services held at Amity Baptist Church. Rev. Anthony B. Eaddy officiated. Interment followed at Mt. Hope Memorial Park.

SZALKA, MARGARET MAY, 79, of Waterville, MI (formerly of Lincoln Park), passed away July 31 in Ludington, MI. Her faith was a very important part of her life. She gave faithfully and supported many religious organizations. Loving wife of William L. Szalka, Sr. Beloved mother of Karen (Herman) Johnson. Dearest sister of Helen (Jack) Farrow and Ada (Lester) Ball. Also survived by ten grandchildren and sixteen great-grandchildren. Preceded in death by her parents; her sons William Szalka Jr. and James Szalka; and her brothers Mick, Lauria, Steve Lauria, and Skip Lauria. Services were held at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church in Wyandotte with Father Walter J. Ptak officiating. Cremation rites have been accorded. Crane Funeral Home in Romulus made arrangements.

THOMAS, WILLIAM H., 92, of Inkster (born in Birmingham, AL to William and Ida Belle Thomas), passed away July 1. He was employed at General Die Cast and owned his own Gas Station and Party Store. He leaves to mourn his companion Isabelle Gray; his daughter LaVerne; his grandchildren, LaTrelle and Lawrence; family and friends. Arrangements were mad by Penn Funeral Home. Services were held at Miracle Temple with Bishop Horace Jackson officiating. Interment followed at Christian Memorial Cultural Center in Rochester Hills.

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President

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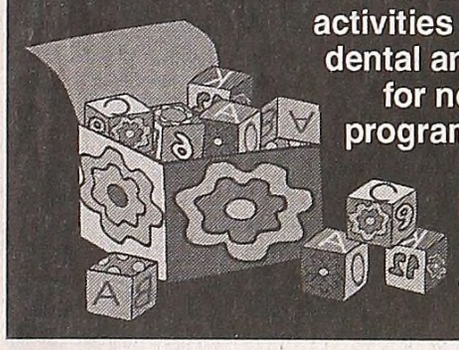
Wayne County is enrolling 3 and 4-year olds from low-income families, and children with certified or suspected disabilities, in its Head Start Program.
Children enjoy educational activities and receive medical, dental and nutrition services for no cost. There are programs for parents, too.



For more information, contact
1-866-534-KIDS

CITY OF WAYNE
PUBLIC NOTICE OF NUISANCE & HAZARD

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a nuisance and safety hazard exists, consisting of tree limbs and brush, declared by the Council to be dangerous to the welfare of the inhabitants of the City of Wayne, on the vacant lot west of 37750 Michigan Avenue, Tax ID No. 055009-01-0186-000.

The owner of said property has been notified but has failed to correct the situation. The owner of said property is hereby required to abate or remove said nuisance and hazard on or before August 16, 2002.

Failure to abate or remove the nuisance and hazard will cause the City Manager to order its removal and assess the costs thereof to the property by special assessment.

BY ORDER OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WAYNE

Mary E. Carney
City Clerk

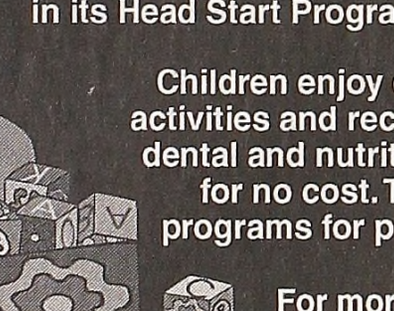
Publish: August 15, 2002

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Charter Township of Van Buren Board of Trustees will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday, August 21, 2002** at 7:30 p.m. in the Board of Trustees Room, 46425 Tyler Road, Charter Township of Van Buren, County of Wayne, Michigan 48111.

This Public Hearing relates to approximately 1.97 acres, parcel numbers V125-83-058-99-0006-708, located on the east side of Belleville Road, south of Tyler Road and north of the I-94 Expressway in a Meijer outlot.

A map indicating the location of the subject site is included below.



The subject site is zoned C- 1 (General Business).

The applicant is requesting special use approval to construct 6,000 square foot, one story bank with six drive-through tellers which is permitted in the current zoning district with special use approval per section 12.03 of the Zoning Ordinance.

Written comments will be accepted at the Department of Developmental Services until 5:00 p.m. on the hearing date. In the spirit of compliance with the American with Disabilities Act, individuals with a disability should feel free to contact the Department of Developmental Services at least seventy-two (72) hours in advance of the meeting, if requesting accommodations.

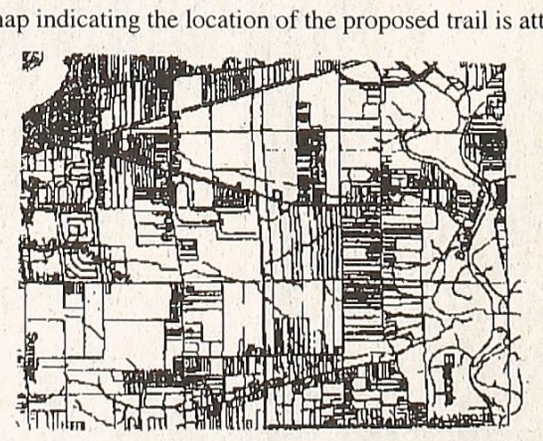
Published: August 15, 2002
Posted: August 5, 2002

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN
PLANNING COMMISSION
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Charter Township of Van Buren Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing to receive comments, in the Board of Trustees Room, 46425 Tyler Road, Charter Township of Van Buren, County of Wayne, Michigan 48111 on Wedesday, August 28, 2002 at 7:30 p.m.

This Public Hearing relates to a proposed non-motorized recreational trail originating at the Bemis Road entrance to the Lower Huron Metro Park, traveling west along Bemis Road to the Detroit Edison company utility corridor, continuing north within the corridor to Savage Road, turning west along Savage Road to Martinsville Road, then traveling north along Martinsville Road, terminating at the future site of Riggs Heritage Park (SE corner of Huron River Drive and martinsville Road).

A map indicating the location of the proposed trail is attached.



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Published: August 15, 2002
Posted: August 9, 2002

Charter Township of Van Buren Township
ORDINANCE 7-16-02

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN ORDAINS:

The amendment calls for the deletion of the current language:

If the township denies the issuance of a license or denies the renewal of a license or the township revokes or suspends an exisiting license, the aggrieve party may appeal that decision pursuant to MCL 7.101.

And replace it with the following:

In any instance in which the Township denies the issuance of a license to an applicant to operate a sexually oriented business, the Township shall, within 30 business days of the approval/denial deadline established in Section 22-403(g) herein, proceed to a court of competent jurisdiction and institute a declaratory judgment action seeking to secure a declaratory ruling approving the Township's sexually oriented business licensure requirement under this ordinance. Not withstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, the applicant for an SOB license may, at any time, seek prompt judicial review of any act or failure to act by the Township regarding an SOB license or application for the same.

This Ordinance is hereby declared to have been adopted by the Township Board of the Charter Township of Van Buren, County of Wayne, State of Michigan, at a special meeting called and held on 12th day of August, 2002.

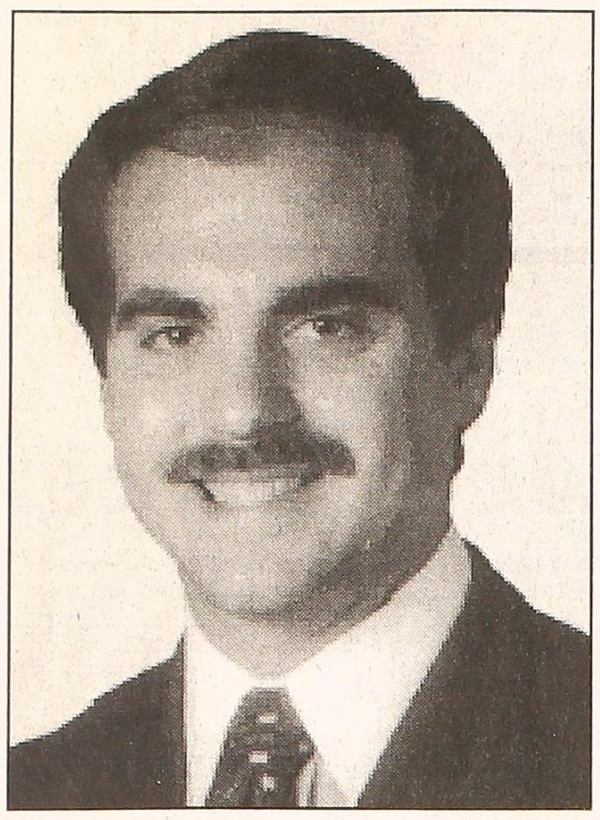
Yeas: Payne, Budd, Herman, Jahr, Rochowiak and King.
Nays: None.
Absent: Hart.

I hereby approve the foregoing Ordinance

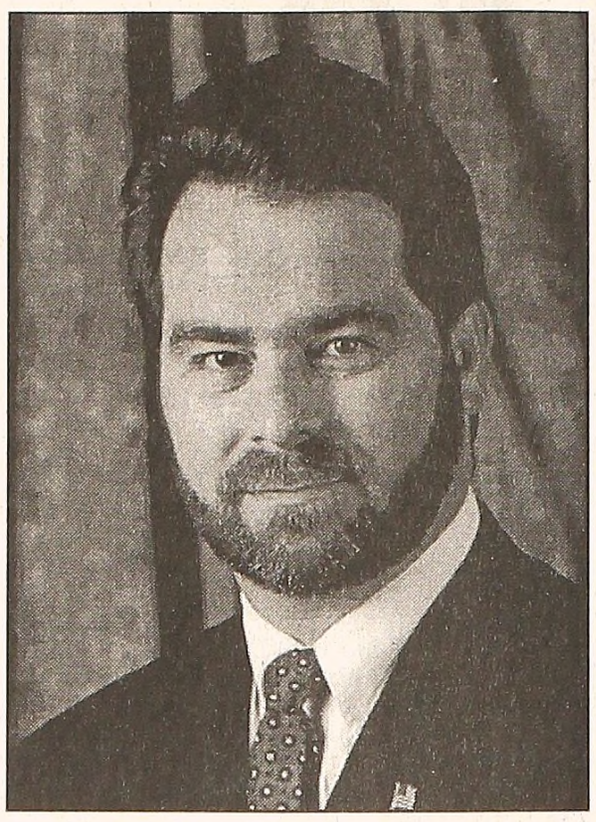
Joannie D. Payne, CMC
Township Clerk

Cindy C. King
Township Supervisor

Adopted: August 12, 2002
Published: July 25, 2002
August 15, 2002
Effective: August 15, 2002



David A. Glaab



David M. Parrott

Glaab wins judicial primary

By BRENDA GRACIN
MCN Staff Writer

In a race that will draw a lot of attention between now and November's general election, two candidates for Judge of the 34th District Court have emerged from the August 6 primaries to face each other on the general ballot.

David A. Glaab, an attorney from New Boston won last Tuesday's primary receiving 3,455 votes. David M. Parrott, an attorney from Van Buren Township came in second with 1,849 votes. Stephen J. Trahey, placed third with 1,762, Jeffrey Jahr, a Van Buren Township trustee placed fourth with 1,547 votes, and George H. Chedraue placed 5th with 232 votes.

The 34th District Court is comprised of voters from Romulus, Van Buren Township, Huron Township, Sumpter Township and the City of Belleville. Glaab and Parrott will be competing for a term of six years.

After his primary victory, Glaab gave a lot of credit to his neighbors and friends. "I believe they like the idea of their next judge being someone who grew up and went to school in the area and who's family has lived and worked in the area for generations," said Glaab. "I'm the only candidate to have a law practice in the district, they know my experience as a leader in the community serving as a township supervisor, helping to solve real problems for real people."

> *"I'm the only candidate to have a law practice in the district, they know my experience as a leader in the community serving as a township supervisor, helping to solve real problems for real people."*

Glaab believes his supporters know he shares their values and has established a record they can trust. "I have the leadership to maintain the kind of integrity they have come to trust in our local judges, Judge Tina Brooks Green and Brian Oakley, who have endorsed me and have decided I am the person they would like to work with," said Glaab.

Parrott excited about his showing in the primary believes his campaign is picking up momentum. "I would like to thank everyone who supported me, placed their trust in me, and worked for me," said Parrott. Parrott believes he is the candidate to best serve the district due to his litigation experience. "I have spoken with the other candidates and expressed my respect and admiration for them, it was an honor to have run in this race with them," said Parrott.

Parrott believes his community involvement has contributed to his candidacy by placing him in close contact with residents. "I feel my community involvement has put me in touch with what justice means to the people of the 34th District and what they expect from their district court judges," said Parrott.

Both men will have the opportunity to talk with voters in their district over the next two months to prepare for November's elections.

For further information on Parrott's candidacy read today's political ad.

Van Buren gets the nod for Governor's Fitness Award

By BRENDA GRACIN
MCN Staff Writer

On October 21, Van Buren will be honored at the Lansing Center when they officially receive the Governor's Council on Physical Fitness, Health and Sports Promoting Active Communities Award.

Bruce Ross, Director of Recreation and Facilities will accept the award on behalf of the township. Ross, a certified leisure professional, member of the Michigan Recreation Parks Board, and winner of the Recreational Professional of the year two years ago, has instituted a number of programs in the township to benefit Van Buren residents.

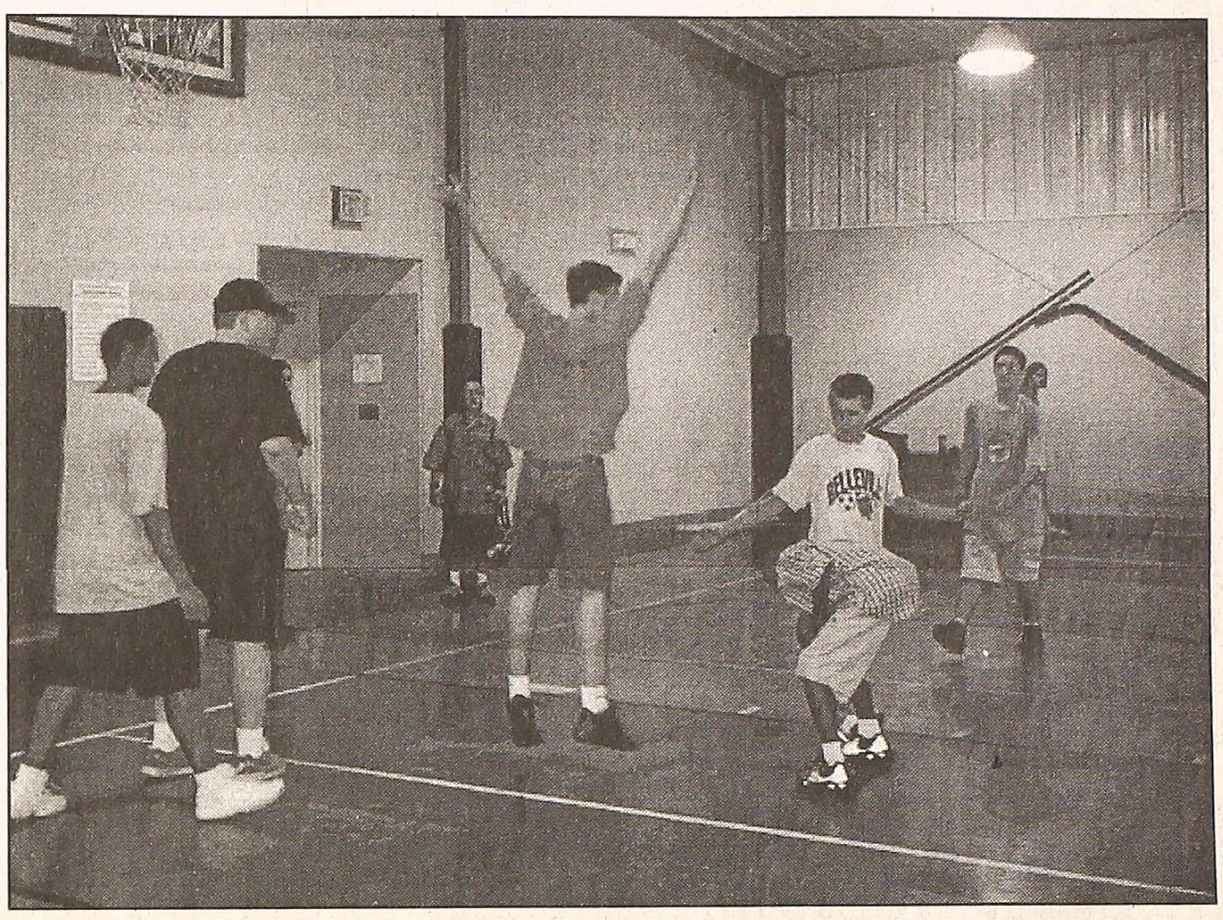
A firm believer in physical fitness as a means of total health fitness, Ross works diligently to promote physical fitness awareness in his community. Ross, along with the Parks and Rec staff have begun such programs as rock climbing, white water rafting, hiking and excursions for all age groups, martial art programs, jazzercise and other exercise classes.

> *"I'm pretty much into health, that's why I chose the parks and rec field. I believe we should do everything we can to keep our people physically active. It's a quality of life thing."*
>
> **Bruse Ross**
> **Director of Recreation and Facilities**

Conducting a tour of the recreation department for this paper, Ross explained his enthusiasm for all of the programs the township has to offer. "I'm pretty much into health, that's why I chose the parks and rec field. I believe we should do everything we can to keep our people physically active. It's a quality of life thing," said Ross.

The township received a level 3 award. The award has 5 levels. According to Ross, communities usually don't receive a 3 their first time out. "This is the first time we've ever been nominated, and to earn a level 3 is amazing. I'm very pleased with that," said Ross.

Township Supervisor Cindy King couldn't be happier with the performance of Ross and his rec staff. "He has done a phenomenal job, and he has a great staff," said King. "This award is an absolute credit to Van Buren."



Van Buren teens enjoying one of the many programs offered by the parks and rec. department.

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- Before-/after-school Latchkey
- Extended-day kindergarten
- Early reading program
- Hands-on math & science
- Guided reading
- Technology-based learning
- Elementary band
- After-school programming
- NCA accreditation in many district schools
- State-aligned curriculum

MIDDLE SCHOOL
- Team teaching
- Career Pathways
- Technology-based learning
- Educational Devel. Plans
- State-competitive bands
- Advanced math
- Athletics
- Accelerated reading
- Foreign languages
- NCA accreditation

HIGH SCHOOL
- Block scheduling
- Technology-based learning
- Comprehensive curriculum
- Advanced placement classes
- Foreign languages
- Science Olympiad
- National Robotic competition
- State-competitive bands
- JROTC
- Athletics for boys and girls
- Courses for college credit
- Career Pathways

CAREER CENTER
- Integrated curriculum
- Technology-based learning
- Career Pathways in:
  - *Allied Health Technology*
  - *Automotive Technology*
  - *Computer Technology*
  - *Construction Technology*
  - *Culinary Arts*
  - *Electronics Technology*
  - *Manufacturing Technology*

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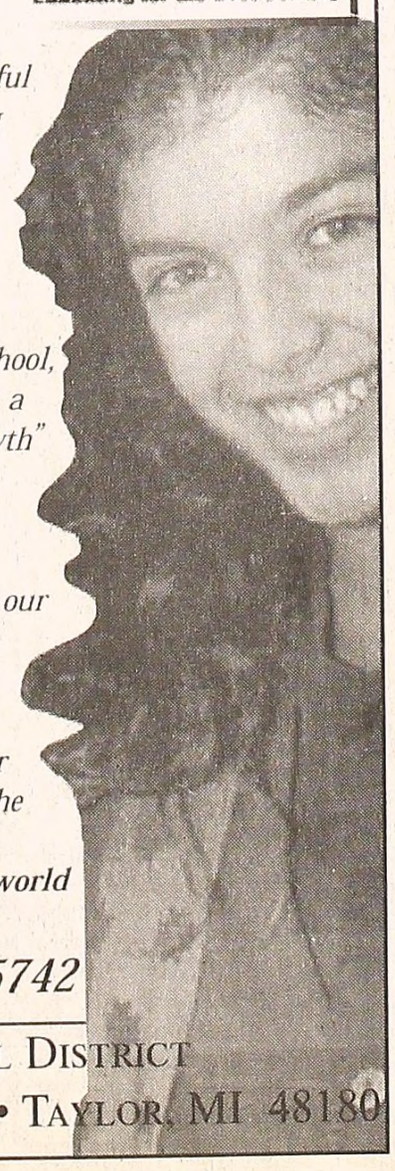
For more about what we can do for your student, take a look at some of the programs we offer (at left).

To help your child prepare for a world of possibilities, call:

Linda West at 313-295-5742



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9pm - 1am Men in Black

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1pm - 5pm Pan Franek & Zosia
5pm - 9pm Kielbasa Kings

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Football Previews

Wayne Memorial begins new season in a new conference

By TOM MOORADIAN
MCN Staff Writer

Wayne Memorial and coach Floyd Carter will begin a new era and a new season in a new conference next week.

Carter and the Zebras turned their backs on the Mega Conference last year, and they are looking forward to competing in the realigned Western Lakes Conference.

"The Western Lakes is a tough football conference, one of the best in the area and the state," said Carter, who greeted 49 young and bold hopefuls on Monday for their first practice of the season. "Some of the teams we are scheduled to play have won state titles. They have excellent traditions and fine athletes.

"Our staff and our kids know this is going to be a challenging year for all of us. There will be no easy ones for us."

Because of the departure of long-time Western Lakes teams such as the Farmingtom high schools - Harrison, North Farmington and Farmington to the Oakland Activities Conference, the Western Lakes will not be divided into two divisions (Lakes and Western) as it has been traditionally in the conference.

Instead, the nine-members of the conference will play each team once, and the team that emerges with the best overall record will be declared the champs. In the past, the division-al champs met in a playoff to decide the conference championship.

Also, this year the Michigan High School Athletic Association will invite all teams that accumulate six victories (or meet the required MHSAA point standard) to the post-season playoffs.

"One of our goals this year is to make the playoffs," said Carter, who has a handful of returning lettermen to help the team reach that goal.

Carter also has reshuffled his coaching staff due to the departure of former staff members Matt Howton, who has moved over to his alma mater, Westland John Glenn, where he is on the staff of another coaching icon, Chuck Gordon.

Carter's son, Mark, who also was coaching the Zebras a year ago, has been offered a teaching position at Walled Lake Central where he also will be an assistant football coach.

To fill the void, Carter has promoted two freshmen coaches - John Roland and John Colligan to varsity-coaching status. Roland will be assigned the task of coaching the guards and centers, while Colligan, former police chief of Wayne, is to handle the tackles and ends. Colligan's nephew, Dan, also will be coaching the wide receivers and outside linebackers.

Dan Simpson will join Colligan as a defensive team coordinator.

Carter, his staff, and his 2002 ball club will receive their Western Lakes baptismal at home on Thursday, Aug. 29, when Livonia Stevenson's Spartans invade Wayne Memorial Stadium.

"Right now, what we have on them (Stevenson) is that they are a big, strong and very tough team," said Carter.

But Wayne also should be better than the 5-4 (White Division) team they were a year ago. They went through most of the season without their starting quarterback, Zack Lappan, a 6-3, 210-pound talented athlete who sat out six games in 2001 due to a broken hand.

A natural leader with an excellent throwing arm, if Lapann can stay healthy, Wayne's fortunes in their new home should be just fine.

Along with Lappan in the backfield, Carter has a sophomore who will be starting as a running back. Tyrell Ford, a rugged running back, scored 28 touchdowns in leading the junior varsity team to a 5-4 record. He's 5-11, 204 pounds and is considered one of the best all-around athletes in the area this year.

"Tyrell also ran track for us and he is a strong, young dedicated athlete," says Carter.

Also, even though Wayne will miss running back Darian Mitchell, who was the major threat the Zebras had in the backfield a year ago, the Zebras should make up for Mitchell's loss with a pair of outstanding talents. Senior fullback Andrew Parks, who is 6-3, 240 pounds and who was two-year starter a year ago, and junior T. J. Dilliard , a 5-11, 185-pound tailback, have the experience and the credentials to compete in any league

Brad Wilson, who is coming up from junior varsity and is bringing his 6-2, 176 pounds of muscle with him, and Delano Boles, who is a standout on defense, will alternate in the backfield.

Wayne's offensive line was disseminated by graduation. But Carter believes that in the group of 49 who reported to camp on Monday there is enough talent to shore up the holes. Returning to one of the tackles' spots is Lance Fuchs, a senior who checks in at 6-1, 242 pounds, and at guard is three-year letterwinner, Mike Porta, who is a strong 5-10, 229-pounds.two-way performer.

Among the others who are hopeful of winning starting assignments are tight end Eric Lang (6-2, 245-

See **WAYNE,** page A-11

1st Flight tournament trophy winners

Among those who strolled off the Gateway Golf Course in Romulus after the 2002 City Championship Tournament last week were Open Division, First Flight, leaders Rudy Rosas (from left, in the photo above), Ed Wolfe (at right) who was runner-up and Craig Kiesznowski, (center) who placed third. In the photo to the left are Wayne's First Flight champ Ivan Jimenez (at extreme left) and third-place trophy winner Larry Wilson. Not available at the time of the photo is Greg Baracy, who finished second in the flight.

Twisters elude upset, 34-31, to post No. 5 win

By TOM MOORADIAN
MCN Staff Writer

The Southwest Michigan Rage proved to the previously "untouchable" Twisters that they can be had. In fact, Rage almost pulled off the upset of the LakeShore Semi-Pro Football Conference season on Saturday when the came within a field goal of spoiling the Twisters' perfect record.

But the three-points weren't there for the challengers as the Twisters came away in a cold sweat on a muggy and humid night with their fifth victory, 34-31.

"Give them a lot of credit," said Twister CEO Glenn Brothers. "They almost pulled it off. Hey, they are an excellent ball club and the truth is we're fortunate to have won this one."

Brothers pointed out that "the Rage moved the ball up and down the field, almost at will, but when the chips were down, our kids came through with flying colors."

Defensively, the Twisters were on the field most of the game as the Rage executed a total of 81 offensive plays for a game total of 532 yards. Twice in the final quarter of play, the Rage was deep inside the Twisters' seven-yard line but failed to put the go-ahead points on the scoreboard.

The Rage's first attempt early in the final period was shut-down on a pass interception by outside linebacker Kevin Smith. The second threat was eliminated with just 58 seconds remaining in the game on a blitz by linebacker Aaron Brothers which resulted in a Rage fumble that was recovered by linebacker Kam Watson. That clinched the game and the Twisters' fifth consecutive victory of the season.

Both Smith and Brothers, along with Chuck Lauber, Eric Thompson, Richardson Lacy and Shaun Blackmon teamed up for a total of 53 tackles.

"Without their exceptional performances, the outcome of this game would have had a different ending," Brothers said.

The Twisters' offense was led by Jaquan Wright who rushed for 119 yards and one touchdown thanks to nine carries. Wright's TD came on an electrifying 63-yard strike midway into the third quarter.

In addition, Wright also had a 43-yard touchdown run called back in the opening period on a controversial holding infraction.

Jason Gibson followed with 56 yards on 10 carries and one touchdown scored from three-yards out. Both Wright and Gibson are averaging better than 8.0 yards per attempt.

One of the most dramatic plays of the game was Charles Fountain's 82-yard kickoff return for a touchdown early in the second period. Fountain also was denied a second TD when a 61-yard TD run after an interception was nullified also due to a holding infraction.

Tight end Anthony Leighton led the receiving corps with three catches for 38 yards which produced three first downs. Donti Hamilton also was on the receiving end of a 13-yard TD pass in the third period.

In total, the Twisters executed 47 plays that produced 254 yards and four touchdowns.

The Rage and the Twisters are in the North Division of the LakeShore Conference and each team boasts 60-plus players on their individual rosters.

"They definitely have some outstanding athletes on that team," said Brothers later. "These two teams dominated the Northern Division of the NSFL for the past two seasons but have yet to capture the league championship," Brothers pointed out. The championship is owned by the powerful Central Ohio Lions, who are currently undefeated in their first four starts.

Brothers said he believes that there will be a swing in the pendulum this season, and either the Twisters or the Rage will inherit the throne from the reigning Columbus, Ohio squad

Twister Coach Willie Brown agreed with Brothers' assessment of

See **TWISTERS,** page A-11

Canton's T-Birds win softball title

By TOM MOORADIAN
MCN Staff Writer

The T-Birds were untouchable in the Western Wayne County Girls' Softball Conference during the 2002 summer season.

Driving to a near-perfect season by winning 14-out-of-their-15 games, Coaches Dan Amann, Frank Szczepanski and Fran Jurcak's T-Birds finished on the top of the conference and the coveted crown.

"These kids were just great," said Szczepanski. "They played their hearts out and achieved the goals they had set for themselves as individuals and as a team."

The conference is made up of teams from the cities of Wayne, Farmington, Allen Park, Southgate, Garden City, Dearborn Heights, Novi, Livonia and Plymouth-Canton.

The newly-crowned T-Birds outscored their opponents 127 to 21 in a 15-game schedule. They suffered only one loss.

The team's lineup includes players Sarah Amann, Jesse Bonello, Mandy Bradley, Kelly Ebers, Cortney Edwards, Stephanie Harrier, Michelle Jurcak, Michelle Manery, Alycia Murowski, Tina Sniegowski, Allie Sturk, Natalie Szawara, Kelli Szczepanski, Samantha White, and Susan Woodard.

The coaching staff consisted of Amann, Szczepanski and Jurcak.

They're No. 1

Posting an outstanding 14-1 overall record for the 2002 campaign, the Plymouth-Canton T-Birds dominated the Western Wayne County Girls' Softball League Members of the team and the T-Birds' coaching staff include: Sarah Amann, Jesse Bonello, Mandy Brady, Kelly Ebers, Cortney Edwards, Stephanie Harrier, Michelle Jurcak, Michelle Manery, Alycia Murowski, Tina Sniegowski, Allie Sturk, Natalie Szawara, Keli Szczpanski, Samatha White and Susan Woodard. The team is coached by Dan Amann, Frank Szczepanski and Fran Jurcak.

Benniger's 82 tops first flight field in women's division

By TOM MOORADIAN
MCN Staff Writer

It couldn't have been a better afternoon for golfing or for Westland's Carolyn Benninger.

On a clear and sunny Saturday afternoon, Benninger fired an 83 to top the field of Women's Suburban Golf Association competitors in the First Flight to take home the Low Gross Division prize.

Benninger's main challenger was from Wayne. Terry Deisler was runner-up for the division. She posted an 85 for second place honors.

In the duel for Low Net accolades in the flight, Lil VanDenbroker came into the clubhouse with a four-stroke victory over Carol Niemur who carded an even par 72 for the afternoon. VanDenbroker's 68 stood up as the best score for the afternoon.

In the Second Flight, Southfield's Carol Farwell and Clinton Township's Carol McQuade waged a battle to the end and walked off the course in a tie. Both golfers shot 92's in the Low Gross competition. Farmington Hills' Jon DeFranco finished in the second-place spot. She had a 102. Plymouth's Penny Irwin and Wayne's Mary Allen fought it out for the Low Net trophy with Irwin finishing four-strokes ahead. Irwin completed her 18-holes with an even par 72, while Allen shot an 81.

In the Third Flight, Karen Pilon topped the field of competitors in the Low Gross competition as she toured the course with a 98. In the runner-up spot was Dearborn Heights' Pat Wilson who carried a 105 into the clubhouse.

In the Low Net Division, Canton Township's Jean Nelson posted a three-stroke victory over Wayne's Pat Henke, who had a 78.

For further information about the Woman's Suburban Golf Association, women golfers are invited to contact Pat Henke, who serves as publicity chairperson. She may be reached at 1-734-595-2906.

Fall schedules, please

High school athletes checked in with their coaches on Monday in preparation of the 2002 season.

And, while the young athletes fine-tune their bodies for the upcoming battles, the Michigan Community Newspapers' Staff is inviting those high school athletic directors who have not yet faxed or mail their fall schedules to the MCN Sports Desk to do so as soon as possible.

Directors may fax the information by using the following number: 734-729-6088. If further information is needed, please contact the Sports Desk by dialing 734-729-4000.

Thank you for your cooperation.

And good luck to our coaches and teams during the 2002-2003 season.

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Punt, Pass & Kick
Wayne seeks football talent

Wayne Parks and Recreation officials this week announced the dates and times for the popular Punt, Pass and Kick Competition.

The competition, opened to boys and girls, ages 8 to 15, will be staged at 4 p.m. on Wed., Sept. 18, at Anderson Fields located in Attwood Park.

The contest, co-sponsored by the National Football League, offers local winners an opportunity to advance to regional and national competition. The finals are usually staged during the half-time of a national NFL championship game.

Wayne officials point out that the dates and sites for the regional competition have yet to be announced.

Contestants may pick up registration forms between Aug. 13 and Sept. 18 from the Wayne Parks and Recreation Department offices on Howe and Annapolis Roads.

For more information please contact the recreation offices at 721-7400.

Wayne
continued from page A-10

pound senior) and untested tackle Joel Theisen, a senior who is 5-11, 224. Thiesen and Jack Turner, a 6-1, 278-pound senior also are waging a battle for one of the tackle spots. Charlie Reed, a 5-8, 250-pound senior who lettered last year has an edge at guard. Two other candidates for the other guard position are T. J. Ramsey, a 6-0, 207-pound junior, and Ryan Flatt, also a junior who stands 6-0 and is 200-pounds.

To fill the center's position, Carter will move Chris Grissom, a senior who is 6-1, 208 pounds from his usual post at guard. Other candidates for center is Justin Palmer, a 5-8, 228-pound senior, and Justin Cooper, a senior who is 5-11, 180-pounds. Look for Ramon Kinlock, a fast-moving returning letterwinner and Brian Hearst, a 6-4, 182-pound junior who is moving up from the junior varsity, at the wide receiver's post.

Henry Love, who is the Zebras' punter and PAT specialist, will be utilized as a tight end. He's 6-3 and 214-pounds.

"We have good size and good kids on this team," Carter remarked. "It is really going to be a pleasure to coach this team."

Wayne's defense should also be improved even though they lost most of last year's regulars to graduation. Defensive ends include 6-5, 287-pounds Leon Smith as well as Parks and Love, who started a year ago at the position.

Although they lost All-Area defensive lineman Jimmie Brucker to graduation, the Zebras have a capable replacement in A. J. Simmons who is 6-3, 216-pounds.

The linebackers also are solid thanks to Justin Venegoni, a junior, and Dave Lawfield, a 5-10, 195-pound senior. Look for Jason Hesch also to play a role in the secondary. The candidates battling it out for the starting assignments at the outside linebacking position are Erik Thornton, a senior who is 5-11, 176 pounds and Tyrell Ford. The secondary will be tough to penetrate thanks to the return of veterans Dilliard and free safety Boles who has been clocked in 4.5 for the 50-yard dash. Brad Wilson will back up Boles, while Dilliard also has John Dobbins as a back-up.

Carter is looking to fill the corners with Ramon Kinlock, J. R. Fells, Victor Miller and Ronnie Payne.

"I have a lot of confidence in this team. What I would like us to do in our first year is to make our mark as the new kid on the block. I know we can do that," Carter said.

Twisters
continued from page A-10

the power structure in the two divisions this season.

"It will be us or the Rage when the smoke clears," added Brown.

On Saturday, Aug. 17, at 7 p.m., the Twisters will place their perfect 5-0 record on the block when they take on the mighty Lions on the Twisters' home field at Willow Run's Devlin Stadium.

"This is without question the biggest game of the regular season for both teams," commented Brothers. "They beat us (22-19) a year ago, and we can't afford to let that happen this time around. Our destiny is in our hands. If we want the title, we have to go and earn it."

City tourney trophy winners

Among those who surfaced from the 2002 City Championship Golf Tournament at Gateway Golf Course in Romulus with trophies in the Open Championship Flight are tournament medalist Sky McBeth (second from left, above photo), runner-up Greg Gilha (at left) and Bill Armstrong (second from right) and Peter Bedder (at right) who were tied for third place; in the photo at left, Keith Kiesznowski (center) won the City of Wayne's title and the Len Anderson Memorial Trophy, while Bill Hawley (to the right of the champ) was runner-up for the city and Scott Jones placed third.

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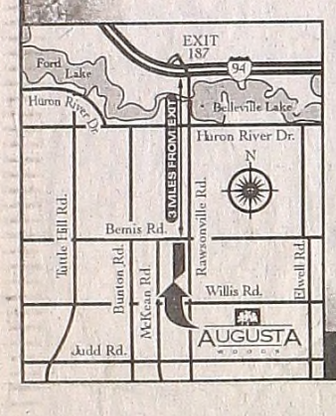

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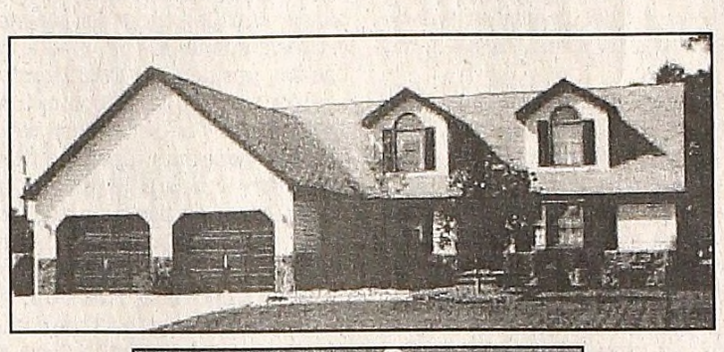

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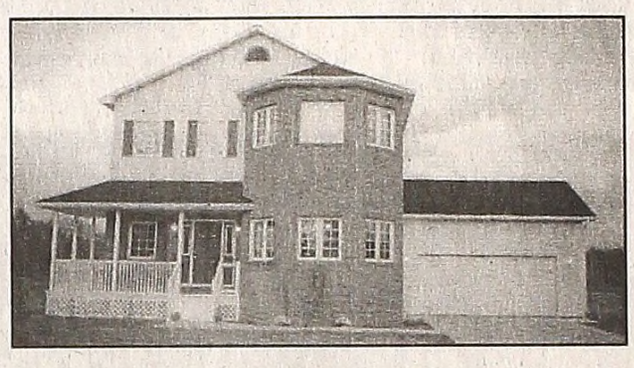

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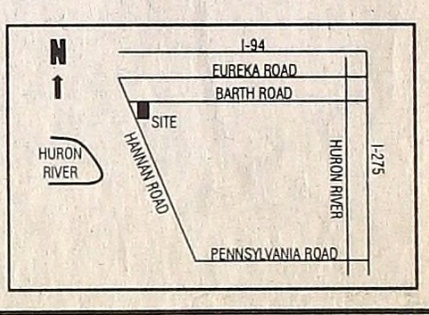

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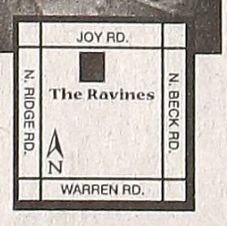

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PLAYGROUND DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

Sealed bids from pre-qualified equipment manufacturers and suppliers marked "Barth Elementary School Playground Development Project, Romulus Community Schools" will be accepted at Landscape Architects & Planners, Inc., 809 Center Street-Suite One, Lansing, Michigan 48906. Until but no later than 3:00 p.m. local time in effect **August 30, 2002**. At which time and place bids will be publicly opened.

PROJECT

The budget is set at $50,000 and the project will include:
— Removal and Relocation of existing playground equipment
— Design and installation of a playground similar to the prototype design given in the bid package.
— Installation of Safety Surfacing
— Excavation
— Installation of Recycled Plastic Timber Walls
— Accessible Concrete Walk
— Color Coat Games.

BONDS

Bonds that are required for this project:
— Bid Bond in the amount of 5% of the total project
— Performance Bond for 100% of the contract
— Labor and Materials Bond for 100% of the contract
— Payment Bond upon notice of bid award for 100% of the contract

Pre-qualification forms, and specifications for the equipment to be supplied may be picked up from Landscape Architects and Planners, Inc., located at Oakland Center, Suite One, 809 Center Street, Lansing, Michigan, 48906.

Contract Items include: Preparation and submittal of a 2 and 3 dimensional plan of proposed play equipment to be furnished and installed by bidder for Barth Elementary School Playground.

Romulus Community Schools
William A. Routhier
Director of Business & Operations

Publish: August 15, 2002